

WARREN  
MAGAZINE



EERIE

#94

\$1.25 56320-6

# EERIE

AUG. 1978



**UNHOLY  
BRIDE,  
INHUMAN  
GROOM  
...A  
UNION  
OF THE  
DAMNED!  
PAGE 19**





# COLLECTABLES OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND



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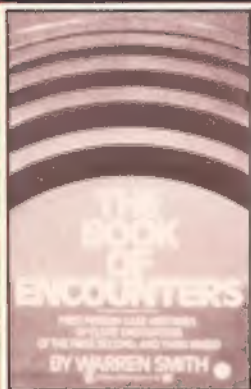
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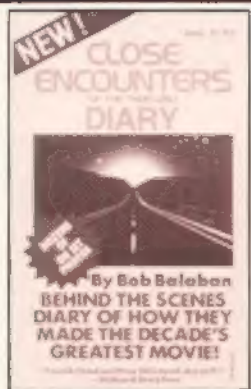
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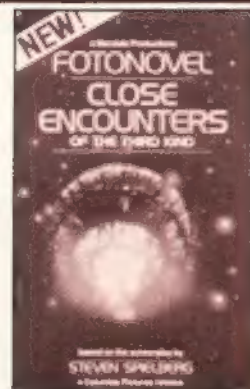
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EERIE No. 94 PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT APRIL, JULY AND DECEMBER BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. EDITORIAL, SUBSCRIPTION & BUSINESS OFFICES AT 145 EAST 32nd STREET, N.Y. 10016. TELEPHONE: (212) 683-6050.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: 9 ISSUES FOR \$12.00 IN THE U.S.; CANADA AND ELSEWHERE \$15.50.

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# EERIE®

## CONTENTS ISSUE No. 94 AUGUST 1978

**4 DEAR COUSIN EERIE** Does EERIE #91 signal the end of a legend? Does Brancatelli have any friends left? Is Abel Laxamana's art similar to Luis Bermejo's? Can we afford silent fans? We certainly hope not! Read on!

**5 THE ROOK** An untold story of VAMPI's arrival from Drakulon. Teaming up with the Rook, VAMPI and Pantha fight the ultimate weapon of a dead stellar empire. Can our intrepid intergalactic stars defeat the Breez robot?

**17 THE COMIC BOOKS** From the fulminations of furious fans, fighting for favorite fanzines, a flat future forbodes for our favorite fictionalist! Other opinions are offered, but be sure to duck while reading!

**19 HONOR AND BLOOD** Can the child born out of an unholy union between man and vampire grow up to lead a "normal" life? You can't escape the sins of your parents. Their errors ripple faintly down the generations!

**27 DEAD MAN'S SHIP** Coincidences of the most bizarre kind can unhinge sanity. A strange place, an odd situation; who knows what happens? If all about you lose their heads be sure to keep yours—the result can be death!

**35 DIVINE WIND** The golden hoard of Kubla Khan swept across Eurasia to create the largest empire the world had known. The Khan cast covetous eyes upon Japan's serene islands. Can warriors beat the prayers of peasants?

**41 DON'T DRINK THE WATER** An anonymous alien mission to Earth attempts to save its members from infection. But one man's medicine is another's poison. Matty and Mark go on a killing spree, an entire city goes nuts!

**49 BRUCE BLOODLETTER** Crazies crammed on Catatonia conceal criminals keeping currency from cosmic coin collectors. Bruce of the I.R.S. pursues tax cheats. But you have to be a little crazy to find the ones who are!

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# Dear Cousin Eerie,

**I**t looks like the trend now a days is toward sports covers! Well, the hockey scene from #92 was fantastic! I'm glad the words seemed to compliment the art rather than distract from it.

"Cold Sweat" was my favorite story of the issue! It was really exciting!


"The Rook: Strangers in the Strangest Places" was pretty interesting. Are you sure Luis Bermejo isn't disguising himself as Abel Laxamana? Their art seems so similar.

Does anyone realize all the paradoxes that occur in this series? The message asking for help was there since 1879, because that is when the monster appeared. But until the monster decided to travel back to that era there was no letter! So the present as well as the past was changed! The result was an exciting story!

I hope the "Moonshadow" series continues. Its ending doesn't seem like the real one, you know? It left me feeling that there is a world of possibilities awaiting a hero with his power! I hope EERIE explores them!

"Gaffer" as usual evokes such deep feeling and human quality that you feel as if you are living it. However, did Jamie's wish merely bring peace by ending the fighting and bringing out the sun to warm the Earth, or did the sun nova, destroying the planet, thus permanently ending all war and fighting? This kind of vagueness leaves a certain unsatisfying feeling in the pit of the stomach which should be avoided.

HENRY KUJAWA  
Camden, N.J.

 We thought we'd be different and opt for a happy ending to "Gaffer," Henry. Maybe that's what threw you!

I was sorely disappointed with EERIE #92. First off, I'm sick of those dumb sports covers! I'm beginning to think I'm reading Sports Illustrated not EERIE Magazine! The artists you have working on the covers are talented but where are Sanjulian and Ken Kelly?

Essentially The Rook story wasn't bad, but it was corny. Bill DuBay is making Restin Dane look more like Batman than The Rook, (i.e., Rook Cave and Rook machines etc.). Even though I missed Luis Bermejo's art, Abel Laxamana's was excellent.

"Let's Hear It for Homo Sapiens" was a surprisingly well written story, which proves Jerry Boudreau can work as well with Auraleon as he can with Gonzalo Mayo. How about a sequence in which Antilles meets Millecent again?

"Gaffer: The Final Wish" was an excellent story which deserves an award! Leo Duranona's art greatly enhanced Roger McKenzie's tale. The combination was superb!

But... with the exceptions of "The Rook," "Final Wish" and "Sapiens" EERIE #92 was a total bomb!!!!

JOE COLLINS  
Afton, N.Y.

The high point of EERIE #91 was the "Rook" tale followed closely by "Moonshadow." "Elijah Arnold and the Angel's Egg" wasn't a masterpiece, but it was highly enjoyable. At least it didn't have a thunderbolt striking down from the sky to finish off the bad guys.

The only way I can think of improving EERIE, is getting rid of that pain-in-the-neck, Joe Brancatelli. It is totally ridiculous having someone who totally despises everything in comic books reviewing comic books.

DAVE ZAKES  
Toronto, Ont.

The first magazine which introduced me to the Warren line was CREEPY #11. I have been with you ever since and just recently sent for the back issues needed to complete my collection.

I have always remained a silent fan. Why am I writing now, you might be wondering? The sad point is because of EERIE #91.

Let's start with the letter's page: Cutting down to one page was bad enough but now you feel you have to clutter it with cutouts and a "Dear Cousin Eerie" so large that a letter or two might easily fit in this space.


Next point, the Rook: When this series first appeared I was as excited as all the rest of your readers seemed to be. But you are now at the point of milking it dry. I believe it's time to put the series to rest.

RAYMOND ORTIZ  
Elmhurst, N.Y.

Now we are getting somewhere! After what seemed like a long sequence of dismal issues, EERIE is on the up again. Not a bummer in the whole issue! Your regular artists tried harder this time around, but most of this is due to the presence of Auraleon.

Another major problem with EERIE has been the lack of continuing series. You can't always have a winner like the "Hunter" series but I enjoy a story that's several episodes long and makes me wonder "what happens next!"

KIERNAN DIAMOND  
Philadelphia, Pa.

 Auraleon has been ill for some time, Kieran, and has been unable to do much work for Warren. Happily, he is now much improved and his work should begin to appear much more regularly!

We're pretty excited about a couple of upcoming series. "Zud Kamish: Hero of the Milky Way" should make his first appearance next issue, as well as "Nightwalk," "Harrow House," and "The Shining Sea!"


I always enjoyed Warren mags, and I found the six stories and Joe Brancatelli's column in #92 very interesting.

I hope there is another "Rook" episode in #93, I can hardly wait for it to hit the stands!

JOHN GARLOW  
North Cape May, N.J.

I've been a fan of EERIE Magazine for several years and I usually like every story in each issue. But the story about the two black kids in EERIE #92 was terrible! "Bad Day Across 110th Street" was one of a very few stories printed about blacks, so I was glad to see it until I read it. Nobody, but I mean nobody talks like that. You make it seem as if the only thing blacks call whites is honky and paddy.

WILLIS MC CLOUD  
Palmetto, Fla.

 We never meant to imply that all Blacks talk New York "jive," Willis. Witness "Gaffer: The Final Wish" in that same issue.


EERIE #92 has just passed through my mental digestive system. As usual, I found some parts tastier than others.

"Cold Sweat" left me cold. I always like "The Rook" unless its story is too grossly sexist and demeaning to women (which has happened on occasion.) Part one of "Strangers in the Strangest Places" was great!

The "Moonshadow" series picked up with "Suzanna, Don't You Cry." If Moonshadow weren't so damn ugly I could identify with him more, but that's no big deal actually.

One last word: I have to agree 100 percent with Joe Brancatelli's assessment of Warren comics' main weakness—I too would like to see more American artists.

CAT IRONWODE  
Mountaingrove, Mo.

 Concerning American artists, we use the works of Rich Corben, John Severin, Berni Wrightson, Russ Heath and Dick Giordano whenever they can fit us into their extremely busy schedules. We, like you, wish it could be more often!

What other American favorites would you like to see in EERIE?

# Dear Cousin Eerie,

c/o Warren Publishing  
145 E. 32nd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10016



# PROLOGUE

A POWERFUL NEUTRON BOMB IS DETONATED UNDER THE SWelterING WASTES OF A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DESERT.

THERE SHE GOES, GENERAL BLACKHART, SIR...! THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL WEAPON!

WHA-TOOM!

INSTEAD OF THE INTENSE EXPLOSION ANTICIPATED, HOWEVER, THE BOMB FIZZLES INTO RAW RADIOACTIVE MISTS!

WHAT HAPPENED, SERGEANT?

I...I DON'T KNOW, SIR!

IT'S AS THOUGH SOMETHING SIPHONED OFF ALL ITS ENERGY!

WHILE DEEP UNDERGROUND, A FOSSIL MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD GLOWS WITH INTENSE RADIOACTIVITY...

...UNTIL IT BEGINS TO MOVE...TO CRACK AND SPLINTER... AND COME TO WRETCHED LIFE!

GENERAL...SIR! I'M PICKING UP SOME KIND OF MOVEMENT UNDERGROUND!

WHAT IN THUNDERATION COULD BE DOWN THERE, BOY?

I...I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, SIR!

BUT ITS DRAINING EVERY OUNCE OF ENERGY WE'RE PRODUCING...

...AND...AND IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE NEAREST CITY!



MEANWHILE... SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES IN SPACE, IN A STARSHIP STREAKING TOWARDS EARTH FROM VAMPIRELLA'S NATIVE DRAKULON, TWO HOMELESS SOULS PONDER THEIR UNCERTAIN FUTURES!

IT LOOKS SO ALIEN... SO COLD AND HOSTILE!

IT'S THE ONLY HOME WE HAVE NOW, PANTHA!

I... I'VE ALWAYS FELT SO OUT OF PLACE THERE! SO... DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS!

BUT IT'S A BLESSING... NOT A CURSE!

YOU ARE DIFFERENT, PANTHA! BECAUSE OF YOUR HERITAGE!

YOU AND I... WERE FROM THE STARS! BUT WE MUST RESIGN OURSELVES... WE CAN NEVER RETURN TO WHAT ONCE WAS!

THAT'S NOT NECESSARILY SO, VAMPIRELLA!

YOU CAN TURN BACK THE HANDS OF TIME IF YOU SO DESIRE!

NOT EVEN YOU OR MOTHER BLITZ WITH ALL HER POWER CAN TRAVERSE TIME!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, STARPATCH!

TRUE! BUT THERE IS ONE WHO CAN!

WHEN WE FIRST CAME TO THIS PLANET, QUARK DETECTED LARGE ENERGY READOUTS...

...AND MOTHER MONITORED A MAN WHO WAS ACTUALLY TRAVELLING INTO EARTH'S PAST!

\*EDITOR'S NOTE: REGULAR READERS OF THE VAMPIRELLA SERIES WILL NOTE THAT VAMPI AND PANTHA HAVE BEEN BACK FROM THEIR NATIVE DRAKULON FOR SEVERAL MONTHS NOW. THIS IS THE UNTOLD STORY OF WHAT TOOK PLACE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY RETURNED TO EARTH. WE THOUGHT WE'D SAVE IT FOR THIS ISSUE, SINCE THE STORY EVOLVES AROUND A RATHER FAMILIAR TIME-TRAVELLING HERO-- DUBE.





HIS NAME IS  
RESTIN DANE!

AND I'LL WAGER  
THAT IF YOU ASK HIM  
NICELY ENOUGH...

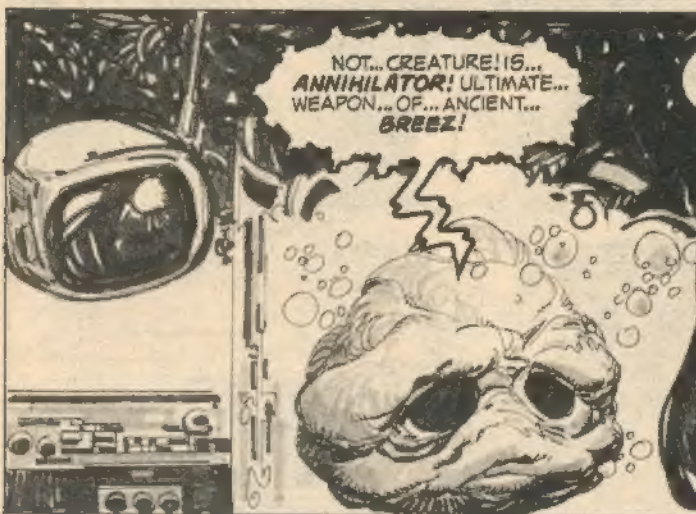
...HE MIGHT BE PERSUADED  
TO TRANSPORT YOU BACK TO  
THE VERY POINT IN TIME  
WHEN PANTHA'S STAR-TRAVEL-  
LING ANCESTORS ARRIVED  
ON THIS PLANET!

THEN YOU MAY ONCE  
AGAIN BE WITH YOUR  
OWN KIND!\*

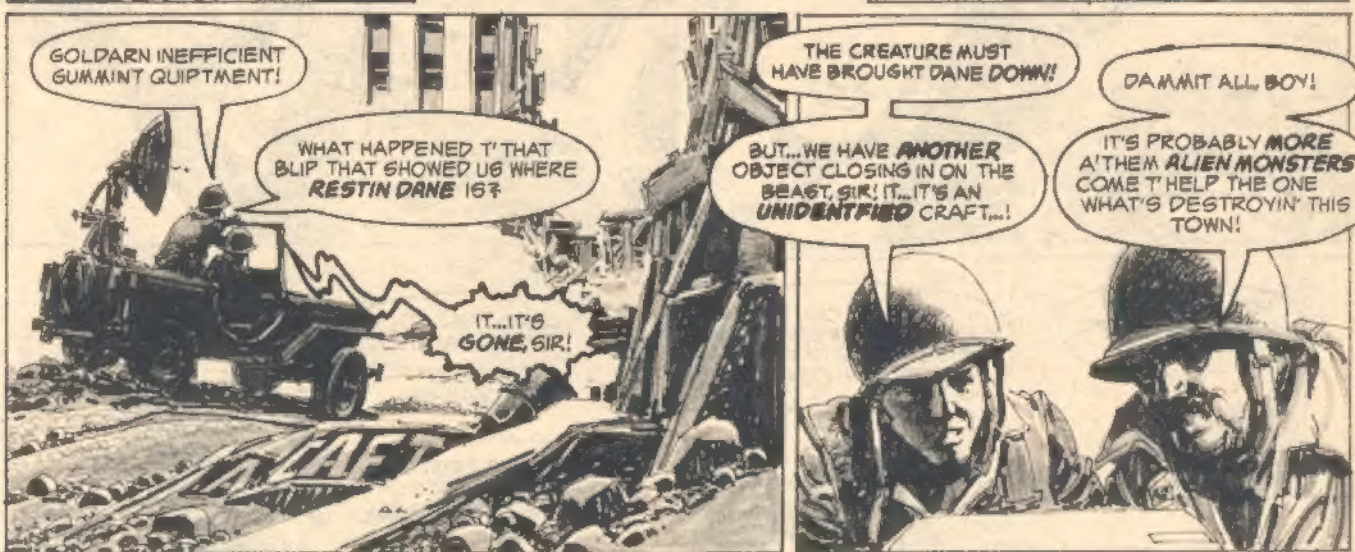
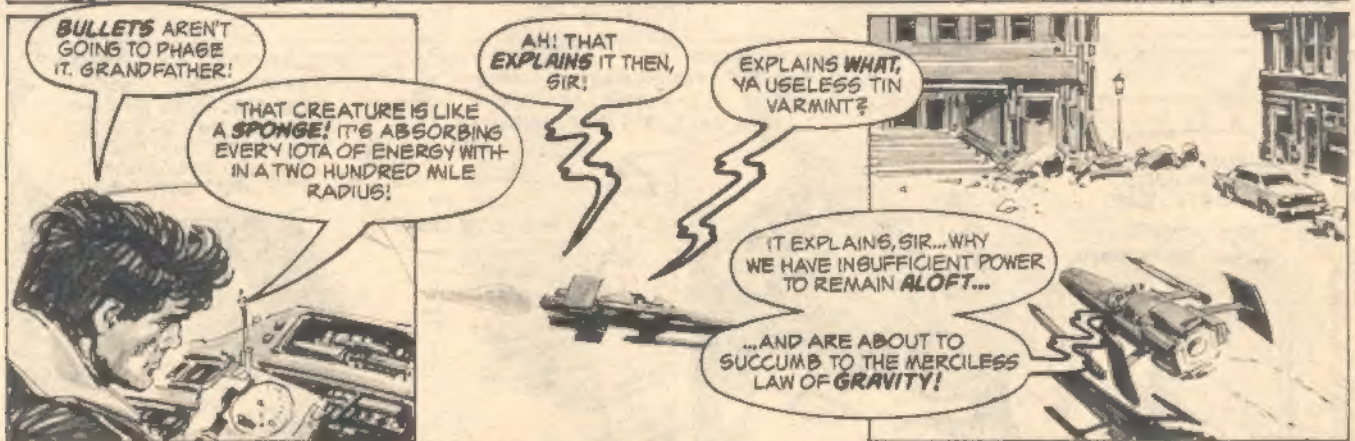
\* SEE VAMPIRELLA # 50 AND # 66  
WHEN PANTHA DISCOVERED SHE WAS  
DESCENDED FROM STAR-TRAVELLERS  
OF THE PLANET DRAKULON, AND  
CAME TO EARTH DURING ANCIENT  
EGYPTIAN TIMES!

# **The ROOK™** **THE** **COMING** **OF THE** **ANNIHILATOR**

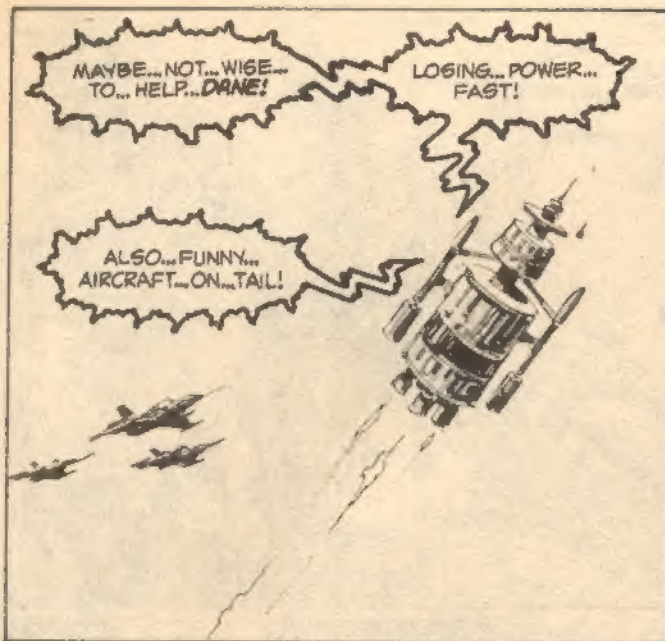








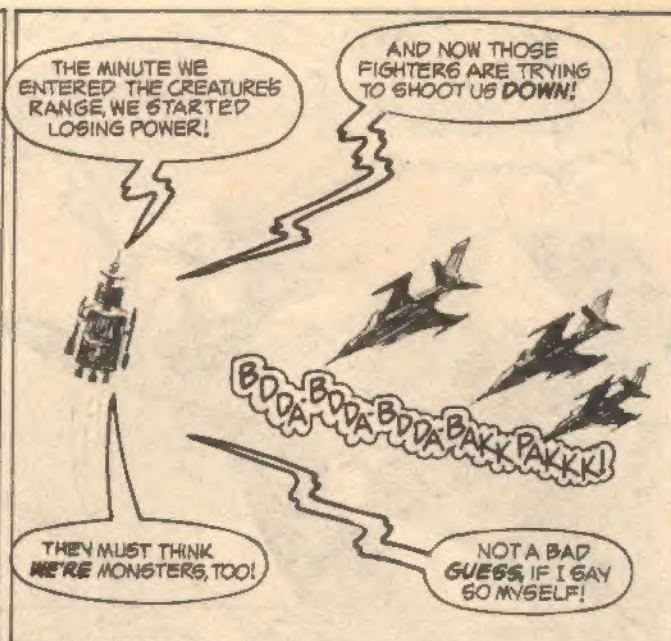




MAYBE... NOT... WISE...  
TO... HELP... **DANE!**

LOSING... POWER...  
FAST!

ALSO... FUNNY...  
AIRCRAFT... ON... TAIL!



THE MINUTE WE  
ENTERED THE CREATURE'S  
RANGE, WE STARTED  
LOSING POWER!

AND NOW THOSE  
FIGHTERS ARE TRYING  
TO SHOOT US DOWN!

THEY MUST THINK  
WE'RE MONSTERS, TOO!

NOT A BAD  
GUESS, IF I SAY  
SO MYSELF!



WE MUST SPEED  
AWAY FROM HERE...  
WHILE WE STILL CAN!

WAIT, STARPATCH! I  
THINK I KNOW HOW TO  
STOP THAT  
CREATURE!

THERE'S NO STOPPING  
IT, VAMPIRELLA! MOTHER  
SAID... IT'S INVINCIBLE!



I'M SURE  
MOTHER'S RIGHT!

BUT WITH RESTIN DANE'S  
TIME MACHINE, WE CAN  
PREVENT THAT CREATURE,  
WEAPON, OR WHATEVER IT  
IS, FROM EVER HAVING  
BEEN PUT ON EARTH!



YOU MUST HAVE  
SOMETHING THERE,  
VAMPIRELLA!

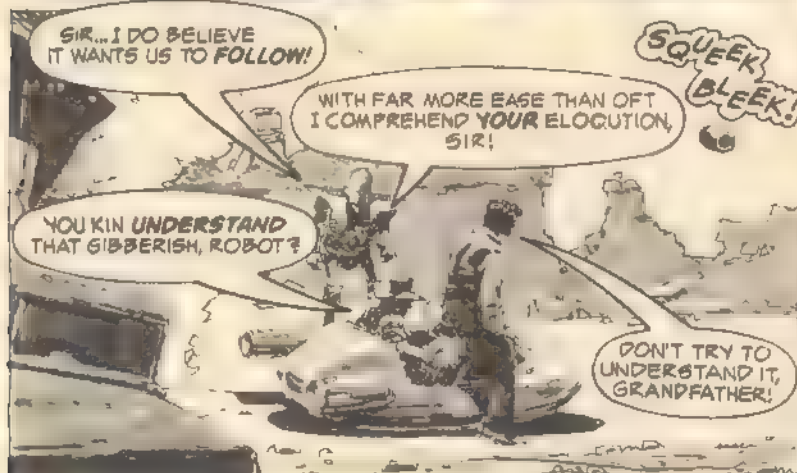
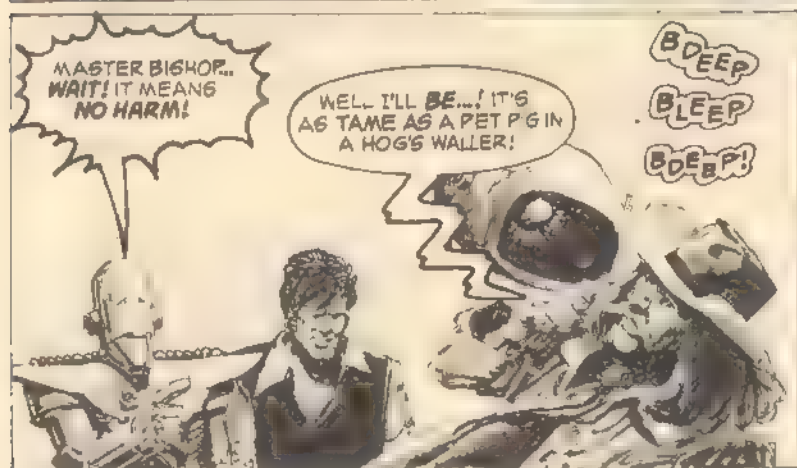
BUT HOW CAN WE  
EVEN GET TO RESTIN DANE?  
ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE  
FIGHTERS ON OUR TAIL?



LEAVE THAT TO  
QUARK, PANTHA!

WHILE THE REST OF  
US CONCENTRATE ON  
GETTING OUT OF HERE!



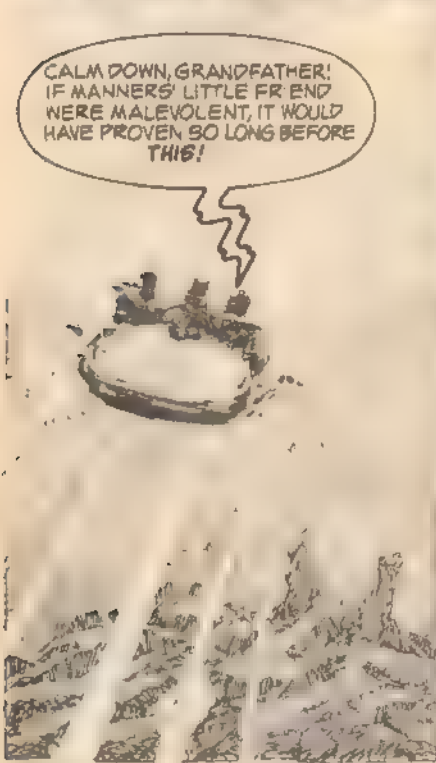






HEY, BOY... I MAY BE  
JUST A IG'NRANT OLD COOT  
FROM THE DAYS A'VESTER  
YEAR...

.. BUT EVEN I KNOWS YA KIN  
GIT COOKED CRISPER THAN A  
REFRIED BEAN IN A RADIO-  
ACTIVE AREA!



CALM DOWN, GRANDFATHER!  
IF MANNERS' LITTLE FR'END  
WERE MALEVOLENT, IT WOULD  
HAVE PROVEN SO LONG BEFORE  
THIS!



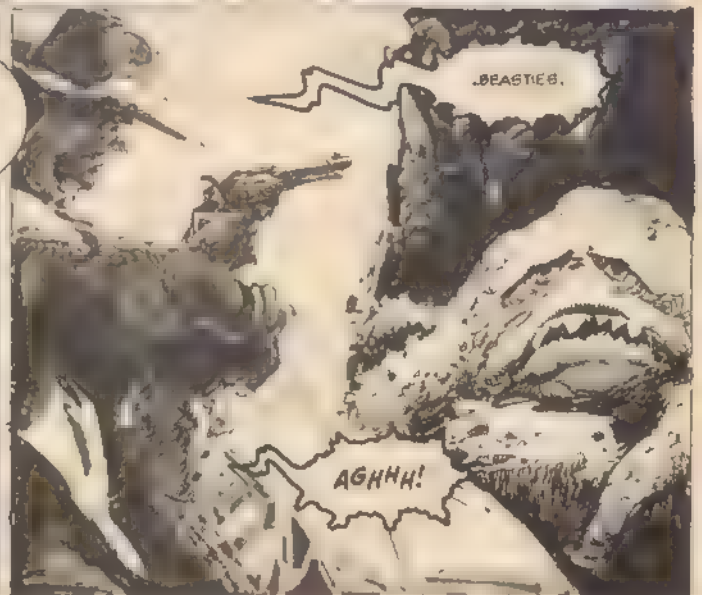
NONE THE LESS, BOY... I  
QUEST ON YER JUDGEMENT  
FOLLOWIN' THAT TIN LIZZ E  
INTO THE JAWS 'A HELL!



SPECIALLY WHEN THEM  
JAWS IS SO DANG WHAPPIN  
BLACK!



KNOWIN' THIS WORLD 'A  
YOURS WHERE ANYTHING  
KIN HAPPEN... I WOULDN'T  
BE A BIT SURPRISED IF  
WE WAS T'BE JUMPED  
BY A HOARD 'A SCREAMIN'...



.. BEASTIES.

AGHHH!

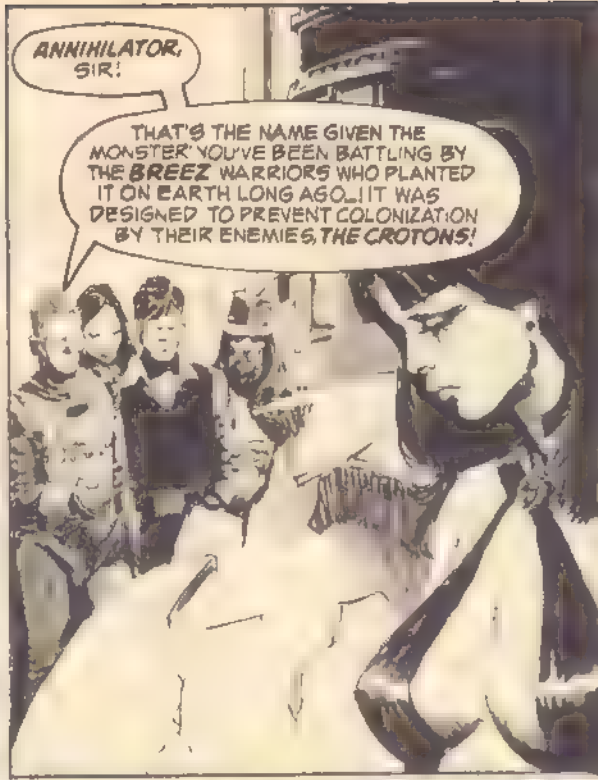




DON'T SHOOT S R!  
WE ARE NOT YOUR ENEMY!

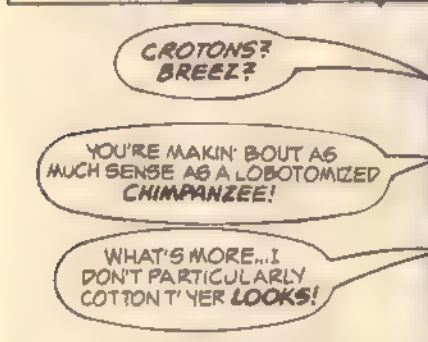
WE'VE COME TO  
HELP YOU DEFEAT  
THE ANNIHILATOR!

THE  
WHAT?



ANNIHILATOR,  
SIR!

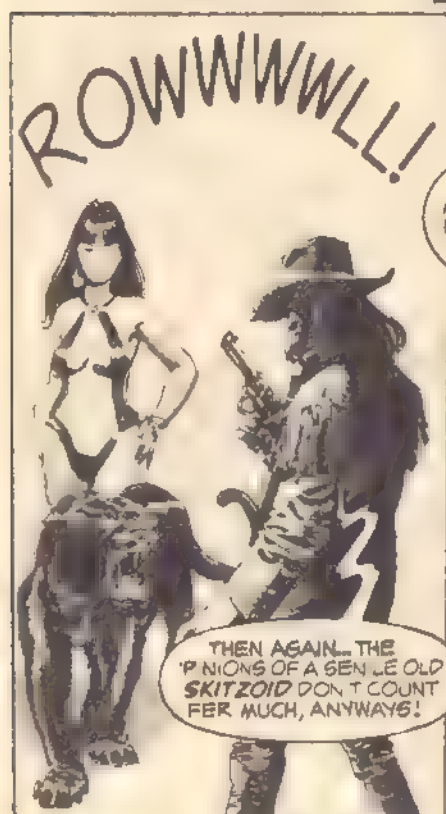
THAT'S THE NAME GIVEN THE  
MONSTER YOU'VE BEEN BATTLING BY  
THE BREEZ WARRIORS WHO PLANTED  
IT ON EARTH LONG AGO...IT WAS  
DESIGNED TO PREVENT COLONIZATION  
BY THEIR ENEMIES, THE CROTONS!



CROTONS?  
BREEZ?

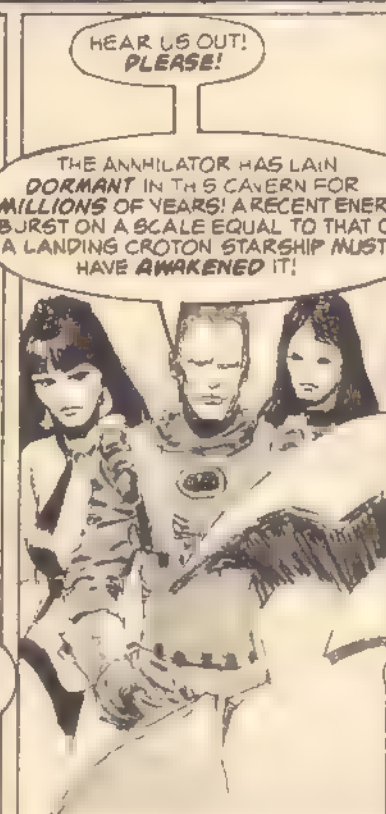
YOU'RE MAKIN' BOUT AS  
MUCH SENSE AS A LOBOTOMIZED  
CHIMPANZEE!

WHAT'S MORE...I  
DON'T PARTICULARLY  
COTTON T'YER LOOKS!



ROWWWWWLL!

THEN AGAIN...THE  
P'NIONS OF A SENILE OLD  
SKITZOID DON'T COUNT  
FER MUCH, ANYWAYS!



HEAR US OUT!  
PLEASE!

THE ANNIHILATOR HAS LAIN  
DORMANT IN TH'S CAVERN FOR  
MILLIONS OF YEARS! A RECENT ENERGY  
BURST ON A SCALE EQUAL TO THAT OF  
A LANDING CROTON STARSHIP MUST  
HAVE AWAKENED IT!



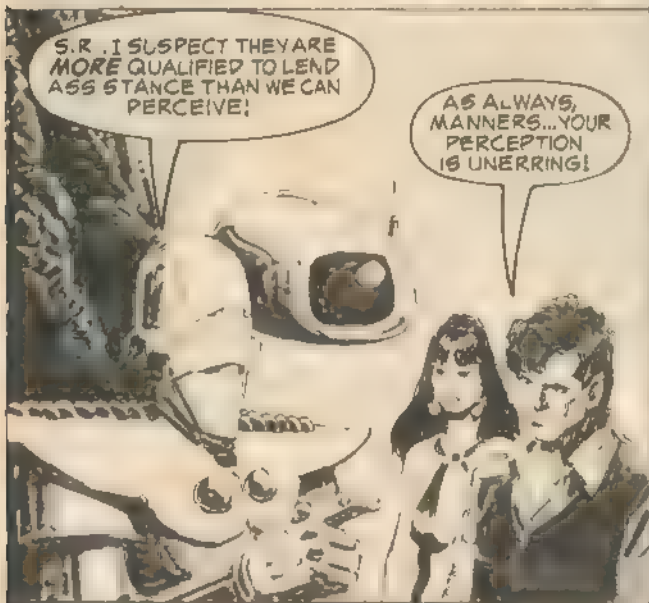
THE CREATURE WILL RUN RAMPANT...  
ABSORBING ALL ENERGY ON TH'S PLANET...  
UNTIL THE EARTH ITSELF... DIES!

THERE IS NO WAY TO STOP IT!  
BUT WE MIGHT PREVENT IT FROM  
EVER HAVING BEEN PLACED HERE.

I'M BEGINNING TO  
SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.

I'M GLAD SOMEBODY  
'ROUND HERE DOES!









SIR! IT'S THAT UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT AGAIN!

THEY'RE HEADED INTO THE DESERT!

BUT THERE AIN'T NOthin' OUT THERE, BOY! CEPTIN--!

GOOD LORD! THAT MUST BE IT!

THAT UFO'S HEADED FOR RESTIN DANE'S ROCK CASTLE!

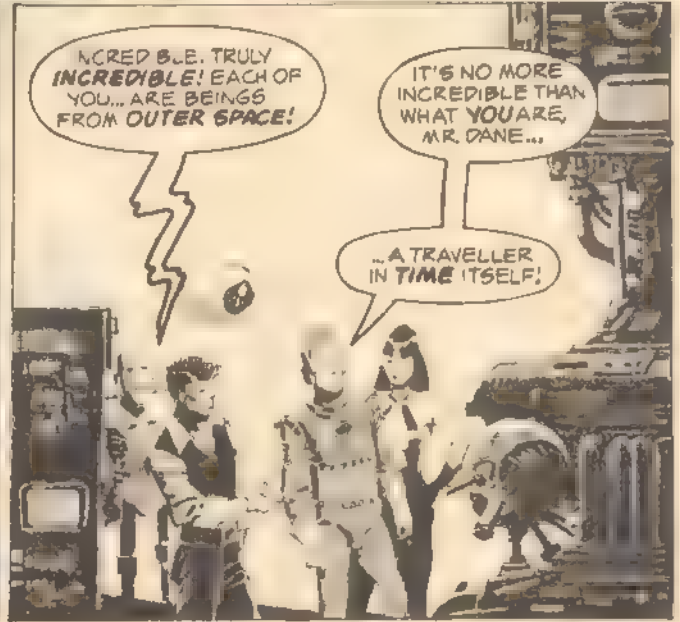
GIMME THE MARINES, BOY! WE'RE GONNA BE THERE T'MEET 'EM!



WRED S.E. TRULY INCREDIBLE! EACH OF YOU... ARE BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE!

IT'S NO MORE INCREDIBLE THAN WHAT YOU ARE, MR. DANE...

...A TRAVELLER IN TIME ITSELF!



SIMPLE GADGETRY, RIGHT, MANNERS!

ER... CORRECT, SIR! BUT HANDSOME GADGETRY I MUST HUMBLLY CONFESS.

BDEEP  
KAKK!

OH, HOW NICE OF YOU TO AGREE!



IF I MIGHT INTERRUPT...! THE ANNIHILATOR IS STRANGLING THE LIFE FROM ONE OF YOUR CITIES.

WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOOSE!

YOU'RE RIGHT, STARPATCH!



BUT BEFORE WE CAN GO INTO THE PAST, I MUST LOCK ONTO THE PROPER TIME SEGMENT!

PERHAPS QUARK CAN HELP, SIR...!

CHINGG-KINGG  
DING!  
DING!  
DING!

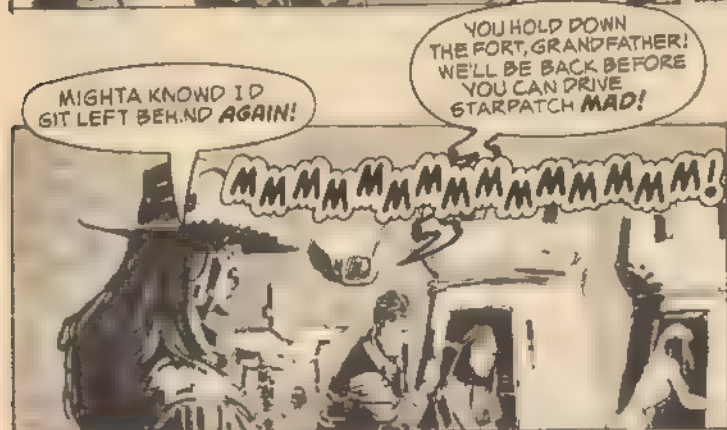
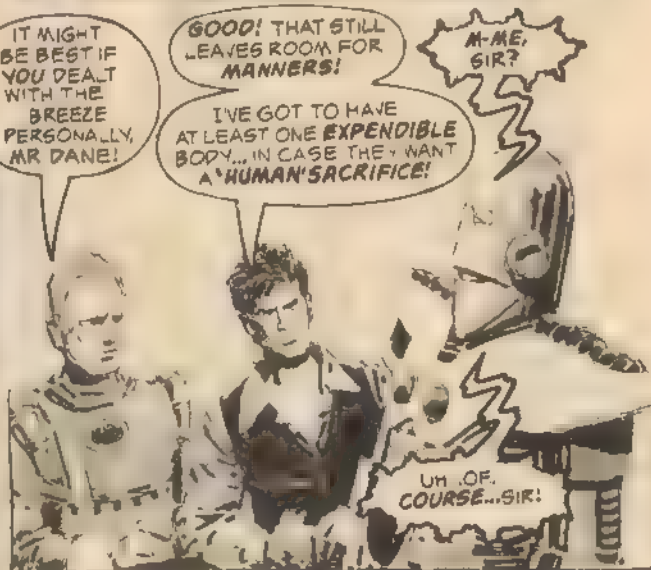
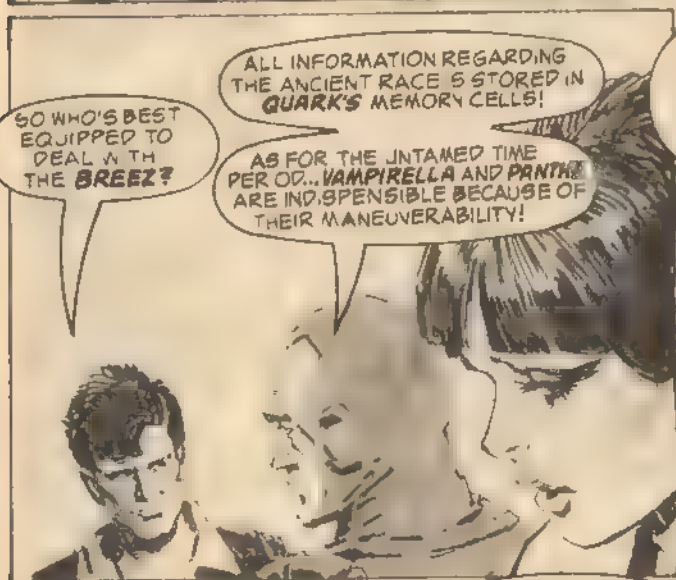
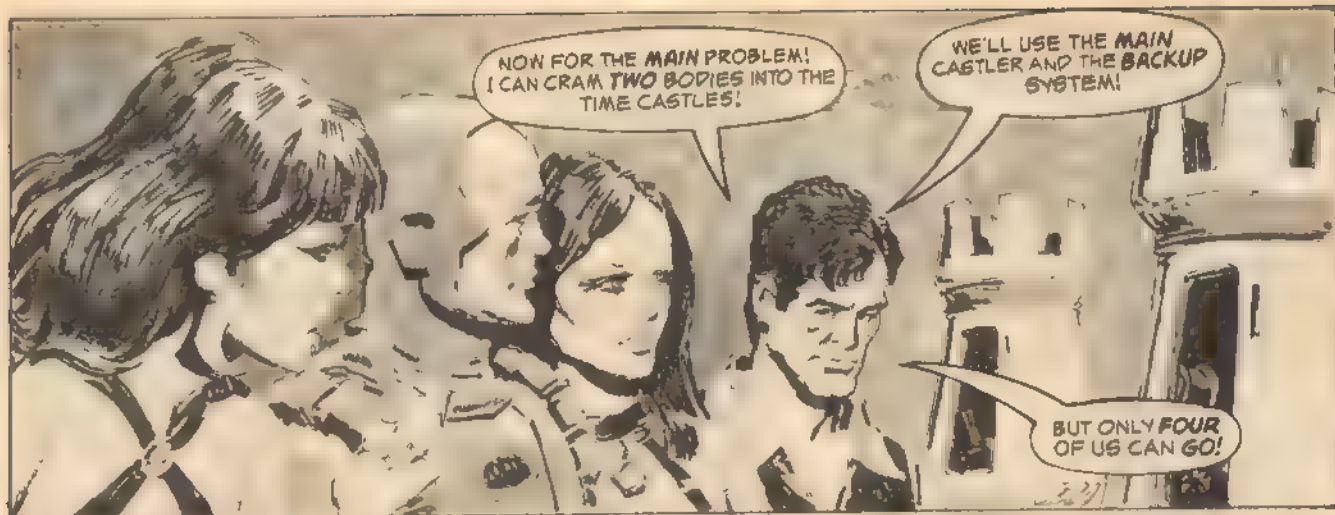
IS THIS WHAT YOU NEED?

AMAZIN! YOU GOT ANY MORE LIKE HIM AT HOME?



INDEED! A WHOLE PLANETFULL! YOU MUST VISIT SOMETIME!







# THE COMIC BOOKS

by Joe Brancatelli

## STILL MORE KISS

**I**t's been six months since I first expressed distaste for the rock group KISS, the Marvel comic magazine based on its stage act and Stan Lee's decision to publish the book.

The letters are still pouring in. After being overwhelmed by a barrage or relentlessly hostile notes from the KISS Army which attacked by musical tastes and credentials, my comic art tastes and credentials and just about anything else about me they didn't like, I'd gotten a fairly heartening expression of support from both comic-book and rock 'n roll lovers.

Lately, though, the crazies have taken over. Here's some of what they've spewed out:

● A Washington State reader said he was "sorry to hear of all the letters from the KISS Army. All in all, I think KISS is one of the worst creations in the 'entertainment' business (aside from the Sex Pistols and other trash as such) and has no right to be glorified in 'superhero' books. I was totally surprised to find that members of the KISS Army would read Warren magazines. I imagine, probably, they have 'spies' to check out the media."

● "I was amused by your referring to KISS as blood-spilling, pseudo-Nazi crazies," wrote one reader. "I'm sure you think all rock music is a communistic plot to under-

mine the moral values of American youth... HA! Oh and I have, from reliable sources, discovered that there are people in this world who enjoy eating RAW hamburger!!! Talk about barbaric, boy!"

● "Actually," wrote an Indiana reader, "I hadn't any idea KISS was so big, having given up on rock 'n roll years ago because of its crappy quality. Now I don't want to be prudish, and I sure don't approve of censorship (sic), but maybe a line needs to be drawn. Draw it at KISS. I dread the day the KISS Army gets into responsible positions. Of course, KISS is just evidence of greater problems."

My, my, folks, aren't we paranoid these days.

## YA GET WHAT YA PAY FOR

**W**hat luck! I now have two, count 'em two, copies of Warren's 1984 Magazine. Like the good comic-book columnist I am, I sprung for the \$1.50 to buy a copy off the newsstand. Two days later, Jim Warren sent me an unsolicited copy free of charge.

Basically, 1984's concept has been done better and cheaper. The stories and art have been done before, with more taste, fewer exploitation plots and more interesting characters. The execution was unimaginative.

All in all, if you have to choose between paying a buck-fifty for 1984

or having Jim Warren send you one gratis, go for the freebie.

## BUY THESE BOOKS

A couple of columns back I recommended two fanzines. I figured that would be the end of fanzine recommendations for a while, being as fanzine publishers of late seem to have been inflicted with the same lack of taste as comic-book publishers.

Thankfully, two more fascinating books have been published recently that merit special attention.

**T**he first of them, *Funnyworld* #17, brings the good news that this esteemed journal is now attempting to "make it" as a regularly published magazine. We all thought the editor, Mike Barrier, gave up on the project a few years ago.

*Funnyworld* is, simply, the best magazine ever published about the comic arts. Its emphasis is primarily on animated films, but Barrier's interests have led him to produce incredibly good material about comic art in general and Carl Barks and Robert Crumb in particular.

Barrier himself is, simply, the most skilled writer, most ingenious editor and most insightful comic-art critic in the field. *The best* Nobody can touch him. He's intelligent. He's lucid. His work is serious but remarkably free of the pom-

posity that mars the work of most other comic-art critics.

In other words, buy issue 17; it contains a fascinating article on the Disney Studio in World War Two. Upon finishing the current issue, subscribe.

**F**unnyworld is \$2.50 from *Funnyworld*, P.O. Box 1633, New York, New York 10001.

*The Comics Journal*, which we recommended the last time, now has another interesting issue available. *The Journal*, despite pretensions to professionalism, remains an over-produced fan sheet rife with youthful excess, arrogant overconfidence and an often irritating holier-than-thou attitude. It is improving rapidly, however, and is consistently readable.

The latest number, 39, has a fascinating interview with Paul Levitz, the 21-year-old fan-turned-comic-book-pro and DC editorial coordinator. The Levitz interview, which is miles too long and tedious for all but those hell-bent on being a comics writer, touches on everything in the comic microcosm. It shows, through Levitz's pitiful inability to see beyond the cloistered, miniscule world of comic books, much of what is wrong with the comic-book business and why it is wrong.

*The Comics Journal* is \$1.00 from Fantagraphics, Inc., 9308 Cherry Hill Road, College Park, Md. 20740.

1984



# MONSTER MAKE-UP

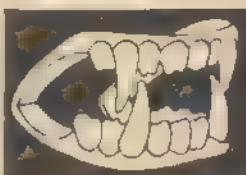
## MONSTER MAKE-UP LAB



**MUMMY LAB.** This inexpensive kit contains everything you need to change your face into the grotesque face of The Mummy. First you apply facestuff, then cotton (included), then facestuff again and allow to dry. Safe. Buy #26005/\$1.98



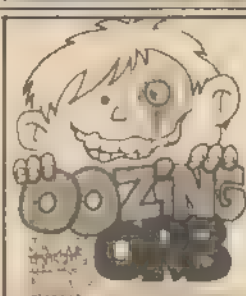
**WEREWOLF LAB** Transform into the horrible, hairy face of a werewolf. This kit comes with cotton, glow-in-the-dark parts and "facestuff". Each article is safe, non-toxic. If you remove the makeup with care it may be used as a mask. #26004/\$1.98



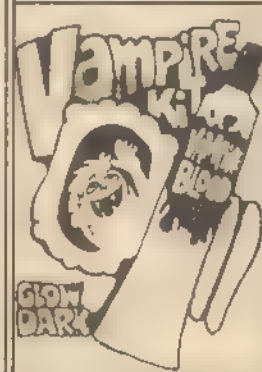
**WEREWOLF TEE-TH** Oversized incisors for tearing out hearts, chewing on cuffs and other evil things. Fits over your genuine teeth. #2614/60c



**VAMPIRE BLOOD** A few drops of this goo on your skin and you'll be the goriest guy around but please don't scare your mother. Red, repulsive and highly mended for you! #2616/75c



**OOZING ORB** Wear this blood oozing eyeball, the same as a monacle, over your own eye. You will be able to see out through the pupil so why not buy two and be twice as scary. As if the orb is not weird enough, it glows in the dark! #2669/49c



**VAMPIRE KIT** A kid needs for making his face look hideous. A tube of special Vampire Blood, Evil Glow-In-the-Dark Teeth and two new improved gory scars. Use a few drops of the blood on the back of the scars and stick them to your skin. In minutes you will transform your face into a vampire! #26063/\$1.29



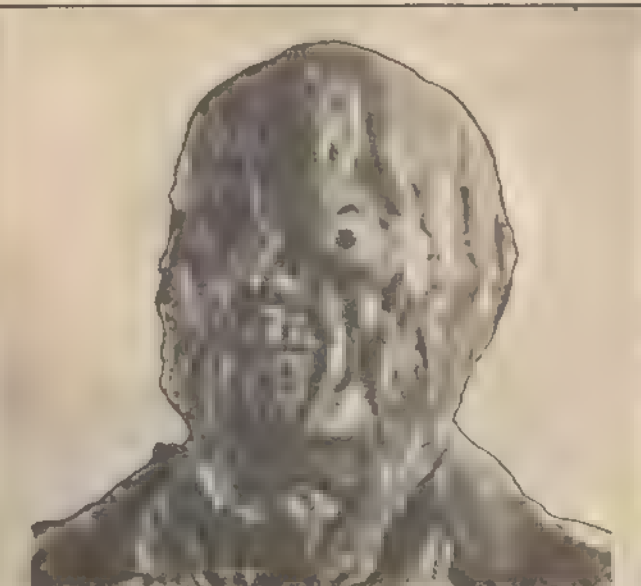
**WEREWOLF KIT** If you dig the life of a werewolf, then this is the kit for you. It contains ten black claws, a set of ugly red fangs which fit over your actual teeth, a genuine bet ring and a can of scarstuff for making a pug werewolf's nose! Be a wolf man! #26064/\$1.49

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MASK KIT



**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MASK KIT** If you have seen the visionary film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" then you'll recall the most memorable moment of the movie was when humanity finally came face to face with aliens from another world. Who could forget the hand gesture of friendship, the attempted smile. Now, you can recreate that thrilling incident with this fantastic full head mask kit. Once easily assembled from pre-formed parts you will have a true reproduction of the head of the extraterrestrial creature to wear as a mask. Made of lifelike Flex-O-Skin. Authentic! #26066/\$5.59

## MELTING MAN MAKE-UP KIT



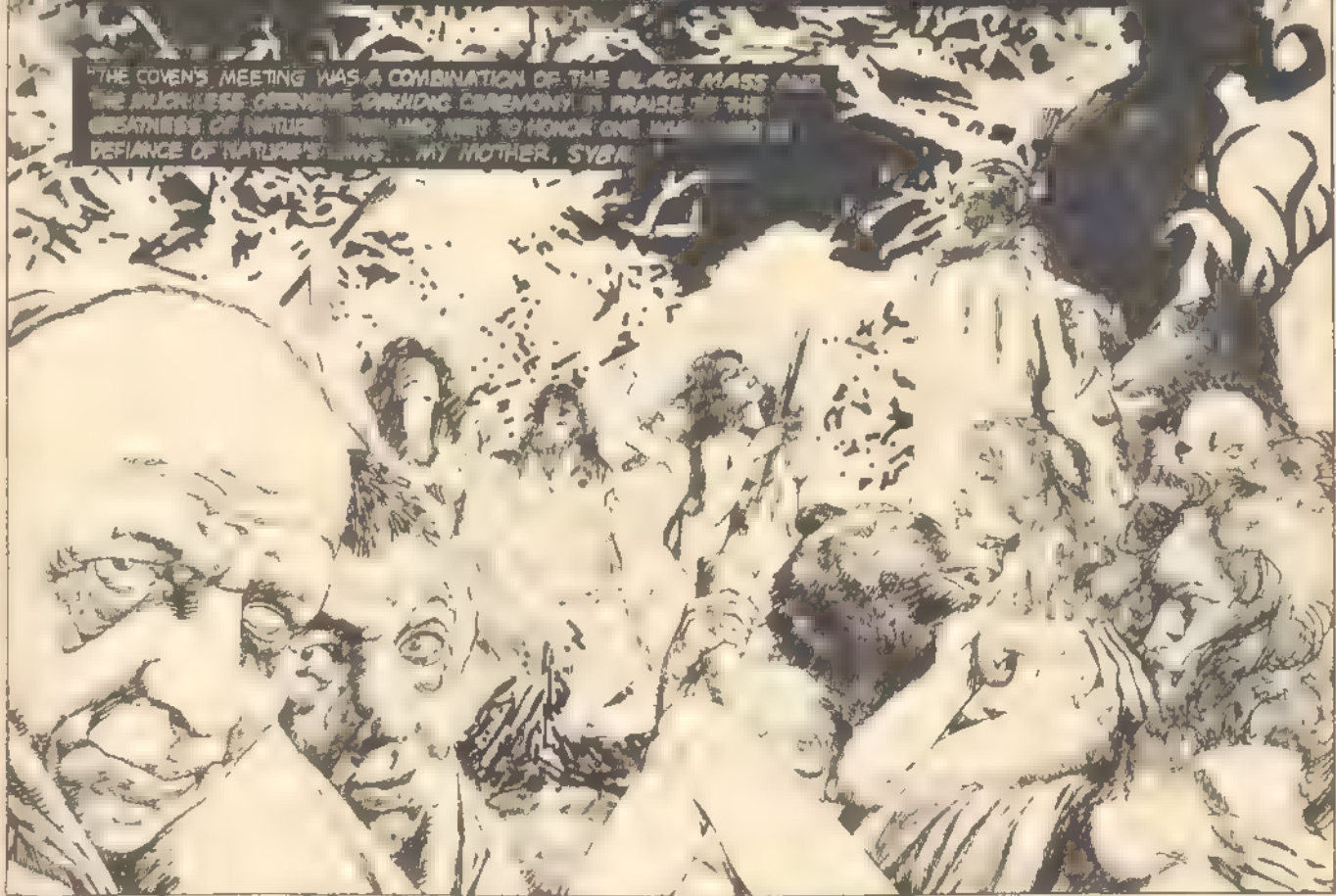
**THE INCREDIBLE MELTING MAN MAKE-UP KIT** An astronaut has returned from an orbit around Saturn but, unfortunately, he has contracted a bizarre medical condition . . . unless he can devour human flesh and drink human blood, he will melt! By following the simple step by step instructions and using the materials included in the kit, you'll be able to recreate any of the three stages of melting or all three in sequence as in the movie. Never before was there a horror so awful, a creature so grotesque yet a tragic figure even more pathetic than the cursed werewolf. Unforgettable! #26065/\$10.95



# Honor and Blood

IN THE DARK FOREST AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, I FEEL MYSELF COMPELLED TO KEEP A JOURNAL OF MY HISTORY. I WAS BORN ON 2 FEBRUARY 1942 AFTER A SHORT AND VERY BIZARRE COURTSHIP. I WAS BORN ON 30 APRIL 1941 ON THE EVE OF MAY DAY, THE NIGHT OF THE WITCHES, WALPURGIS NIGHT!

"THE COVEN'S MEETING WAS A COMBINATION OF THE BLACK MASS AND THE BLACK-LESS OPENING-DANCING CEREMONY IN PRAISE OF THE GREATNESS OF NATURE. THEY HAD MET TO HONOR ONE WHO HAD DEFIED NATURE'S LAWS... MY MOTHER, SYBIL."



SILENCE! LET THE DANCING CEASE! IT IS TIME FOR US TO OBSERVE THE TRUE PURPOSE OF OUR MEETING ON THIS NIGHT, TO PAY TRIBUTE TO A SISTER WHO HAS SEEN OVER TWO CENTURES...

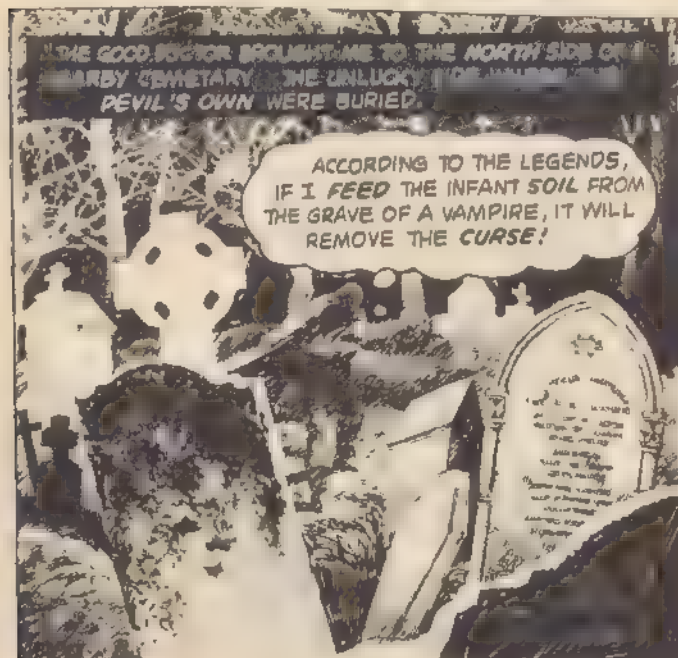
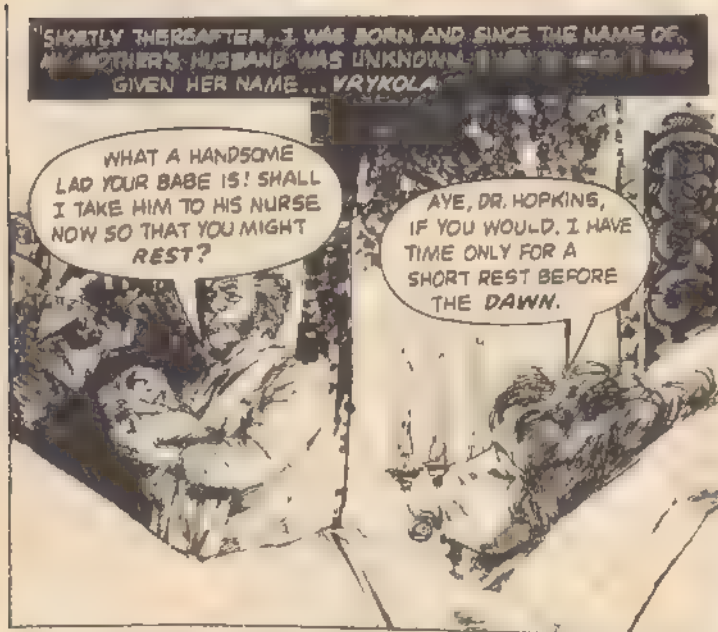
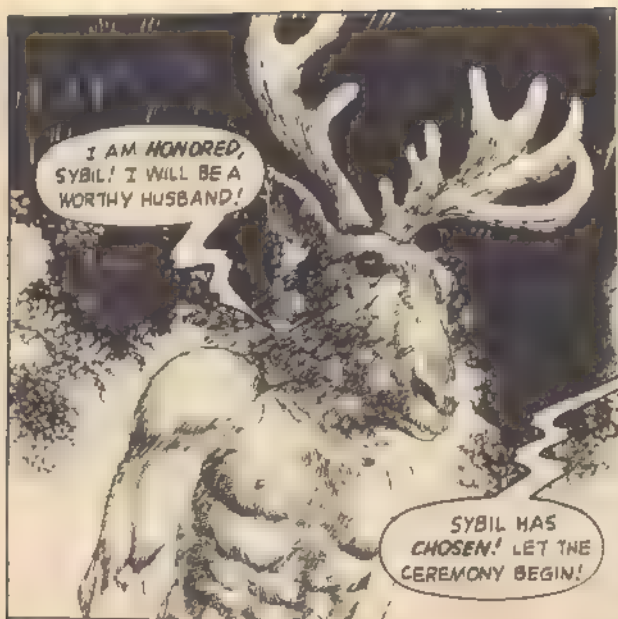
...A SISTER WHO IS BOTH A WITCH AND VAMPIRE!

SYBIL, PRIESTESS OF LORD SATAN. TONIGHT SHE HAS CONSENTED TO WED ONE OF OUR FLOCK AND DELIVER UNTO US A LEADER, AN ANTI-CHRIST.

WHO WILL YOU WED, SISTER?

HIM!









SYBIL! MY  
GOD, THIS IS YOUR  
GRAVE!

AYE, MY GOOD DOCTOR.  
IT APPEARS THAT YOU ARE AS  
KNOWLEDGEABLE IN THE OCCULT  
AS YOU ARE IN MEDICINE. YE ARE,  
THEREFORE, A VERY DANGEROUS  
ADVERSARY.



TOO DANGEROUS  
TO BE ALLOWED TO  
LIVE!



I CANNOT TIRE.  
SURRENDER AND I WILL  
GIVE YOU A SWIFT AND  
PAINLESS DEATH!

IT IS YOU WHO  
ARE DOOMED, SYBIL.  
THE SKY IS ALREADY  
ALIGHT WITH THE  
MORNING SUN.



YAAA! NO! I HAVE  
AVOIDED YOU THESE MANY  
YEARS, O PRINCE OF DARK-  
NESS, BUT I AM FINALLY  
DELIVERED UNTO YOUR  
KINGDOM.



LOOK NOT UPON HER,  
YOUNG IAN. HER FATE WILL  
NEVER BE YOURS. THE BROOD  
OF THE VAMPIRE HAS ENDED  
WITH... SYBIL VRYKOLA.



HOPKINS RAISED ME AS HIS OWN  
SON AND IT IS HERE THAT MY  
STORY BEGINS.



# Chapter Four: Ian

"MY CHILDHOOD WAS HARDLY EXTRAORDINARY. DESPITE MY ADVERSE BEGINNINGS, THANKS TO MY GUARDIAN, I RECEIVED A PROPER EDUCATION AND CHOSE TO STUDY LAW."



"LATER, AS A YOUNG LAWYER, I MOVED TO SUSSEX WHERE I BEGAN AN UNPROMISING PRACTICE WITH MY FELLOW BELL."



THE TEAM OF VRYKOLA AND BELL HAS WON ANOTHER CASE.

BELL HAS A NICE "RING" TO IT, BUT THE NAME VRYKOLA BRINGS A CERTAIN DIGNITY TO OUR FIRM.

VRYKOLA? EVER THINK ABOUT CHANGING YOUR NAME?

HA! HA! YOU DESERVED THAT PUNISHING RIDICULE, BROTHER. YOU SHOULD LEARN TO LEAVE YOUR SHARP TONGUE FOR THE COURTROOM.

AH, DRUSILLA. IAN, MAY I PRESENT MY SISTER, DRUSILLA.

CHARMED



"AND I WAS TRULY CHARMED BY HER. SHE HAD NONE OF THE CYNICISM OF HER BROTHER. SHE WAS SIMPLE AND LOVELY."



YOU NEVER SPEAK OF YOUR FAMILY, IAN. WHY IS THAT?

THEY WERE A SORDID LOT. DR. HOPKINS IS THE ONLY FAMILY I GLADLY RECOGNIZE.

"WE WERE MARRIED AND WERE EVENTUALLY BLESSED WITH A YOUNG SON, WHOM WE NAMED JOHN."



ISN'T HE BEAUTIFUL, DARLING?

A HANDSOME FELLOW...INDEED...!

...WITH NONE OF THE SIGNS OF VAMPIRISM, THANK GOD

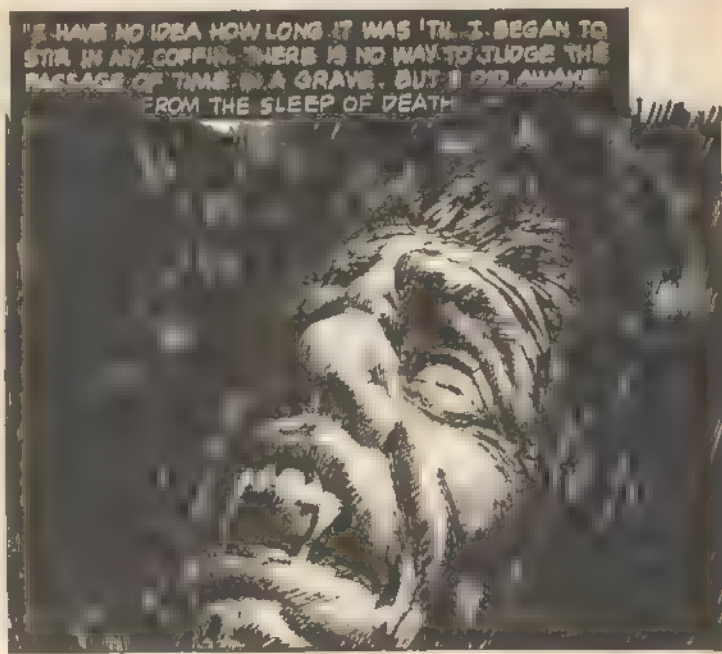
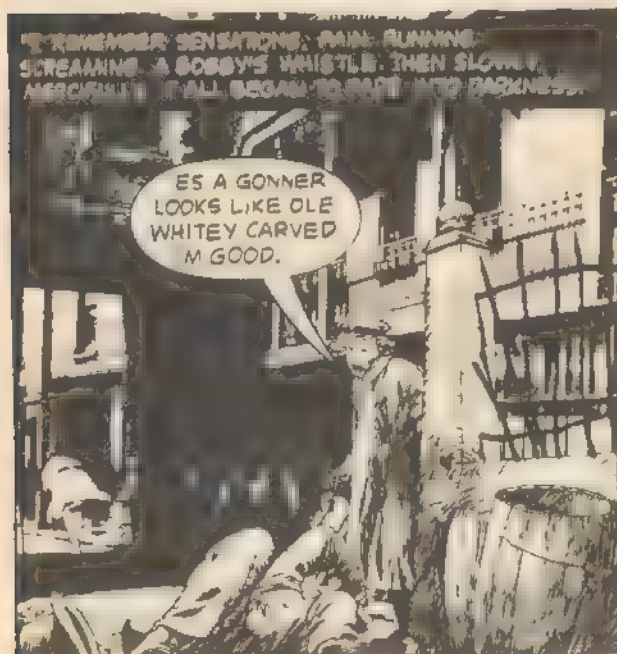
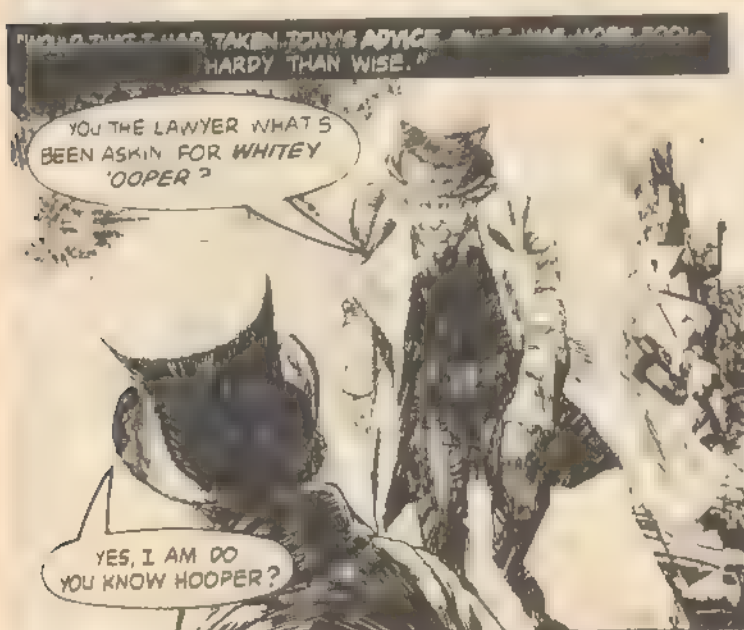
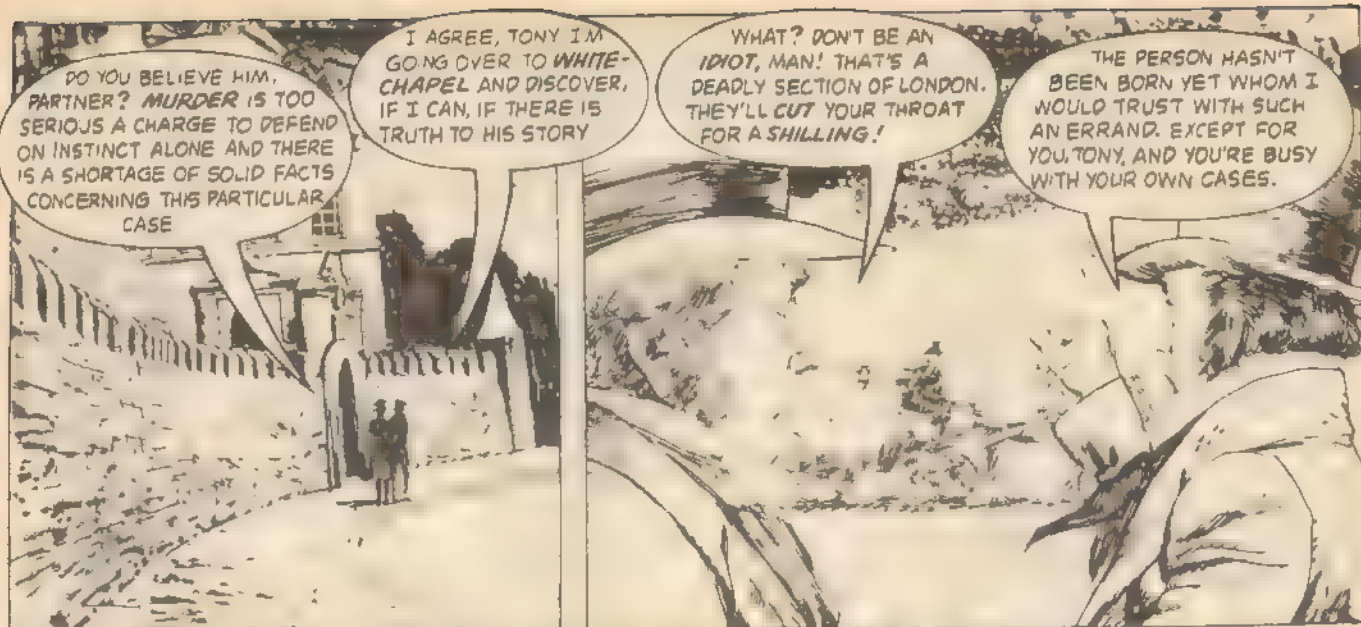
"NOW THAT I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR A GROWING FAMILY, I ATTACKED MY WORK WITH AN ALMOST INSANE ENTHUSIASM."



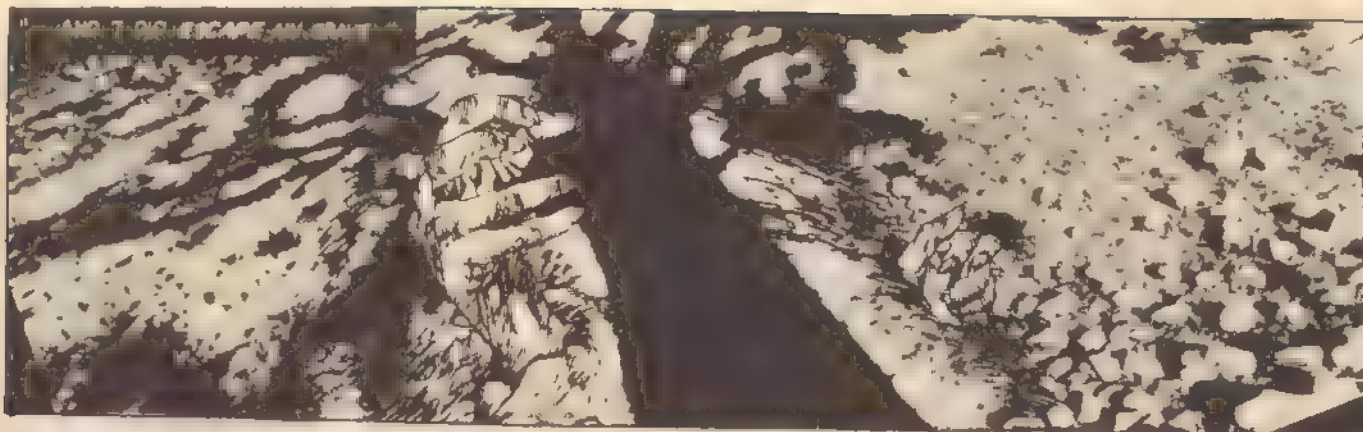
I SWEARS TA YA, SIR, I YAM INNOCENT. WHITEY AN' 'IS CREW FRAMED ME. I DIDN'T KILL NOBODY. I JUS' AIN'T THAT SORT O' BLOKE, SIR.

ALRIGHT, CHESH, I'LL CHECK OUT YOUR STORY. IF YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH, I'LL TAKE YOUR CASE









"EVEN HOPKIN'S PRECAUTIONS WERE UNABLE TO OBLITERATE THE TANTED VRYKOLA BLOOD. IN LINE I HAD NOODS IN MY FISH, BUT NOT DEATH."



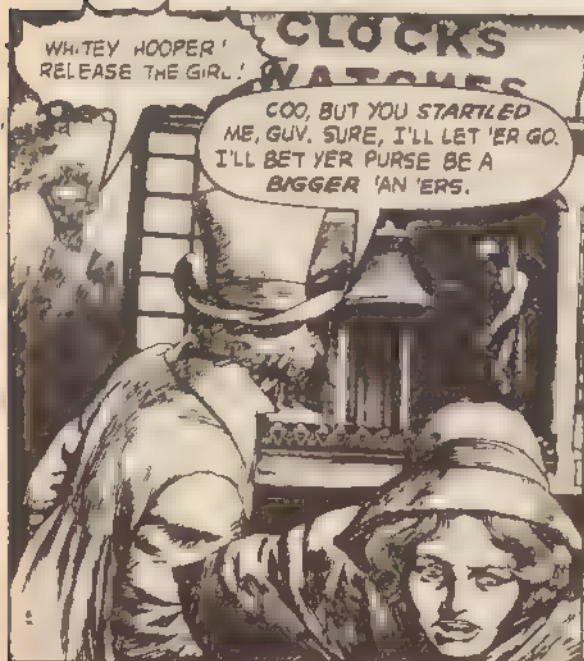
THIS FORM DOES HAVE ADVANTAGES. IT WILL MAKE ME A HUNTED MONSTER... BUT IT WILL ENABLE ME TO ENJOY THE LUXURY OF REVENGE.



"IN WHITECHAPEL"

AWRIGHT GIRLIE YA 'AND OVER COINS OR I GIVES YA' A GRIN WHAT SPANS YER EARS

YESS R! PLEASE DON'T 'URT ME.



WHITEY HOOPER! RELEASE THE GIRL!

CLOCKS WATCHES

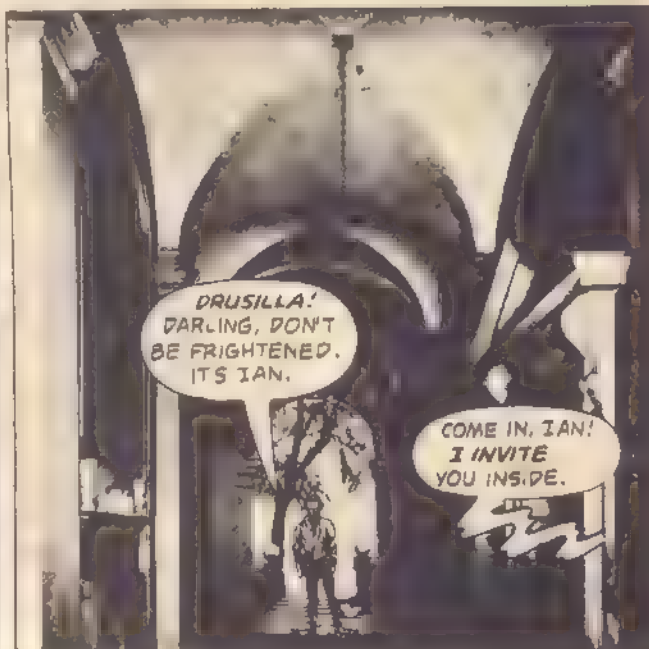
COO, BUT YOU STARTLED ME, GUV. SURE, I'LL LET 'ER GO. I'LL BET YER PURSE BE A BIGGER 'AN 'ERS.



YOU! LAWDY! IT CAN'T BE!

YOU WERE TOO CLEVER FOR THE LAW, WHITEY, BUT I'M BEYOND THE LAW NOW. YOU CAN'T RUN FROM RETRIBUTION THIS TIME.









FATHER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHERE'S DRU AND LITTLE JACKIE?

THEY'RE AWAY. WHEN I HEARD THAT A VAMPIRE STALKED IN SOHO AND WHITECHAPEL, I KNEW IT WAS YOU. I ALSO KNEW THAT YOU WOULD BE COMING FOR YOUR SON.



BEFORE YOU DIE, IAN, THERE IS A SECRET YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT A YOUNG DOCTOR WHO BECAME INTERESTED IN THE OCCULT, ESPECIALLY IN THE DRUIDS.



THE DRUIDS? YOU'RE THE ELK WHO MATED WITH MY MOTHER! THAT MEANS YOU'RE MY REAL FATHER!

YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR ME, FOR THE WAY I AM! WHY DID YOU RAISE ME? REMORSE? GUILT? YOU FIEND!

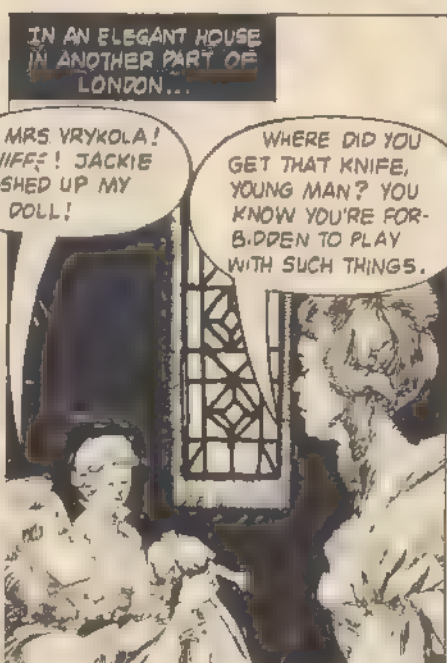
IAN, NO! PLEASE DON'T FORCE ME TO...



I...HAD TO...COUGH... ENRAGE YOU...FATHER. OTHERWISE YOU WOULD NOT HAVE--! COUGH...THE BOY! LITTLE JACKIE...YOU MUST...



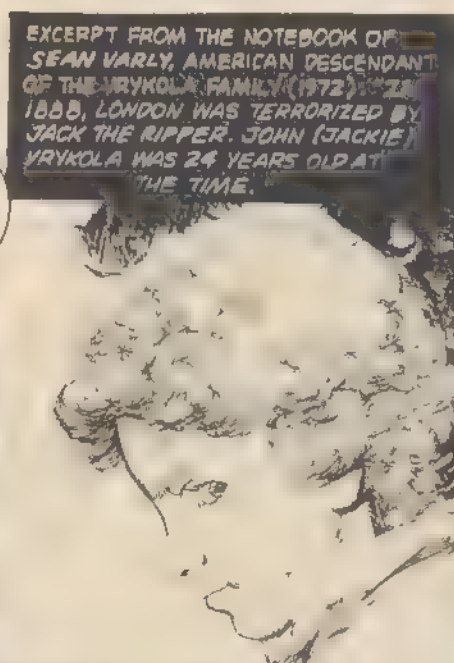
JACKIE IS UNTAINTED. HE SHOWS NO OUTWARD SIGNS OF VAMPIRISM. THE BLOOD CURSE ENDS HERE, MY SON, WITH YOU!



IN AN ELEGANT HOUSE IN ANOTHER PART OF LONDON...

MRS VRYKOLA! *SNIFF!* JACKIE SLASHED UP MY DOLL!

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT KNIFE, YOUNG MAN? YOU KNOW YOU'RE FORBIDDEN TO PLAY WITH SUCH THINGS.



EXCERPT FROM THE NOTEBOOK OF SEAN VARLY, AMERICAN DESCENDANT OF THE VRYKOLA FAMILY (1972) IN 1888, LONDON WAS TERRORIZED BY JACK THE RIPPER. JOHN (JACKIE) VRYKOLA WAS 24 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME.



"28 SEPTEMBER, 1869

I CAPTAIN E. WOOD ROBB, HAVE TAKEN MY FIRST COMMAND AND SET SAIL FOR THE CHINA COAST I SHOULD BE HOPEFUL ABOUT THE VOYAGE BUT I FEEL ONLY A FOREBODING THAT I WILL NEVER SEE MY NEW BRIDE AGAIN. WHY AM I SO MOROSE?"

# Dead Man's SHIP

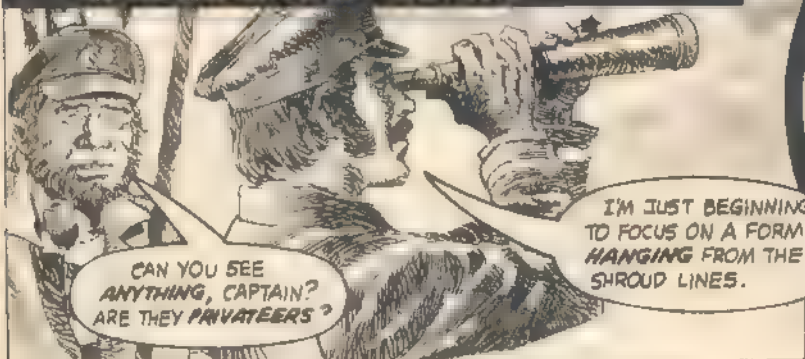
"5 OCTOBER, 1869

IT IS RARE THAT WE PASS SHIPS LIKE OURS IN THE DEEP SEAS SO FAR FROM PORT WHEN WE DID SIGHT ONE WE SIGNALLED TO IT ENTHUSIASTICALLY HOPING TO SAIL NEAR ENOUGH TO EXCHANGE NEWS."



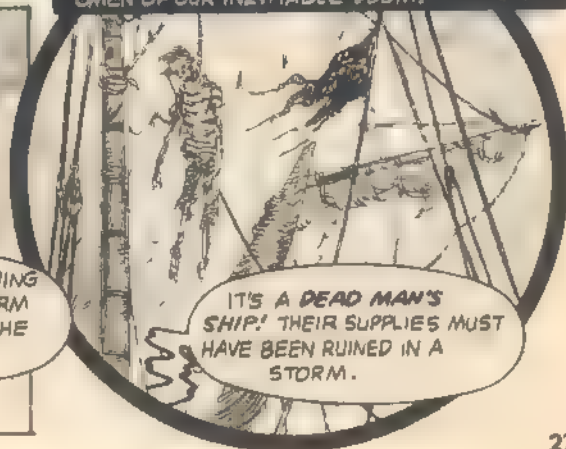
THE SIGHT OF THE FLESHLESS FIGURE CLINGING LIFELESSLY TO THE RIGGING CHILLED ME AS AN OMEN OF OUR INEVITABLE DOOM.

"MY FIRST MATE, THOMAS, AND I WATCHED THE APPROACH OF THE SHIP FROM THE UPPER DECK NEAR THE WHEEL."



CAN YOU SEE ANYTHING, CAPTAIN? ARE THEY PRIVATEERS?

I'M JUST BEGINNING TO FOCUS ON A FORM HANGING FROM THE SHROUD LINES.



IT'S A DEAD MAN'S SHIP! THEIR SUPPLIES MUST HAVE BEEN RUINED IN A STORM.



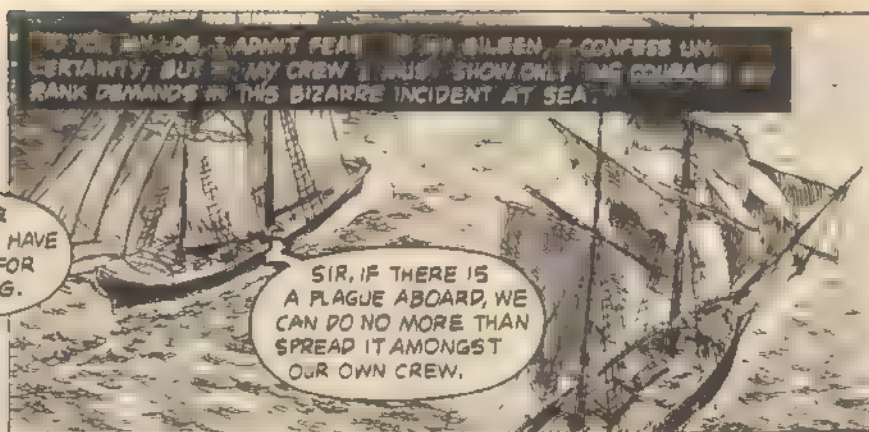


THEIR FLAG IS TOO  
TATTERED TO READ THEIR  
NATIONALITY AND THE  
SHIP'S NAME IS EFFACED!

WE'LL PULL NEAR  
BUT **NOT** TOO CLOSE. HAVE  
A LAUNCH PREPARED FOR  
THE ACTUAL BOARDING.

AYE, CAPTAIN ROBB,  
BUT THAT MAY NOT BE A  
WISE IDEA. THERE MAY  
ALSO BE DISEASE...

YOU WILL OBEY  
MY ORDERS!

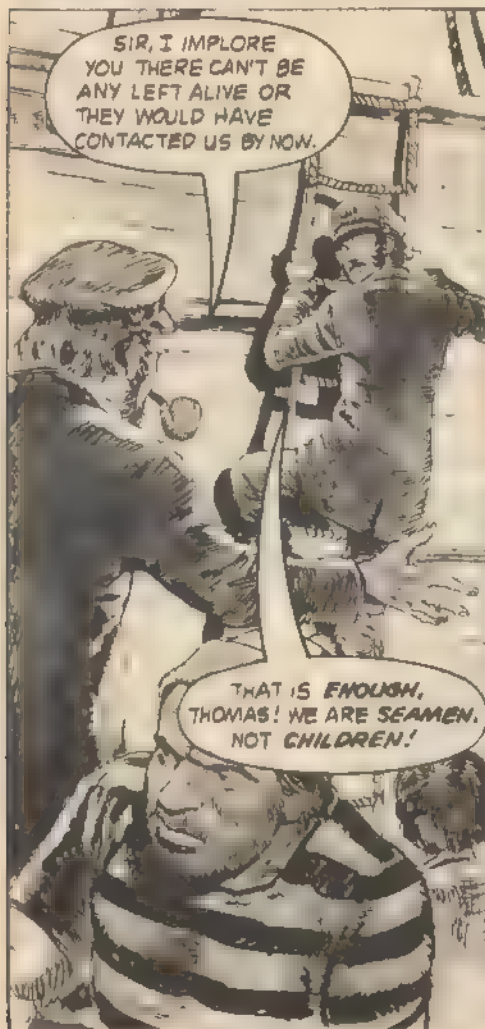


TO YOU, MY LIEGE, I ADMIT FEAR. BUT IN SILENCE, I CONFESS UN-  
CERTAINTY. BUT MY CREW I MUST SHOW ONLY THE COURAGE MY  
RANK DEMANDS IN THIS BIZARRE INCIDENT AT SEA.

SIR, IF THERE IS  
A PLAGUE ABOARD, WE  
CAN DO NO MORE THAN  
SPREAD IT AMONGST  
OUR OWN CREW.



IF WE ARE CAREFUL  
TO TOUCH NOTHING, WE  
SHALL BE SAFE.



SIR, I IMPORE  
YOU THERE CAN'T BE  
ANY LEFT ALIVE OR  
THEY WOULD HAVE  
CONTACTED US BY NOW.

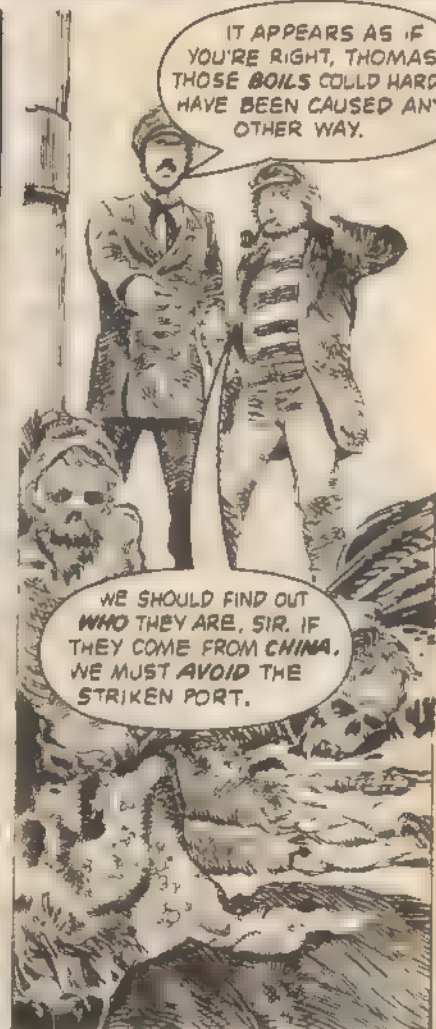
THAT IS ENOUGH,  
THOMAS! WE ARE SEAMEN.  
NOT CHILDREN!



I SPOKE BRAVELY, BUT TREMBLED  
AS MY BOOTS TOUCHED THE DREAM-  
ING DECKS OF THE DEATH SHIP. I  
KNEW THE WISDOM IN THOMAS'  
WORDS, BUT I COULD NOT ALLOW  
HIM TO UNDERMINE MY COMMAND.  
I WOULD NOT RESCIND MY ORDERS.

CHECK FOR SIGNS  
OF A PIRATE RAID OR  
ROTTED FOOD

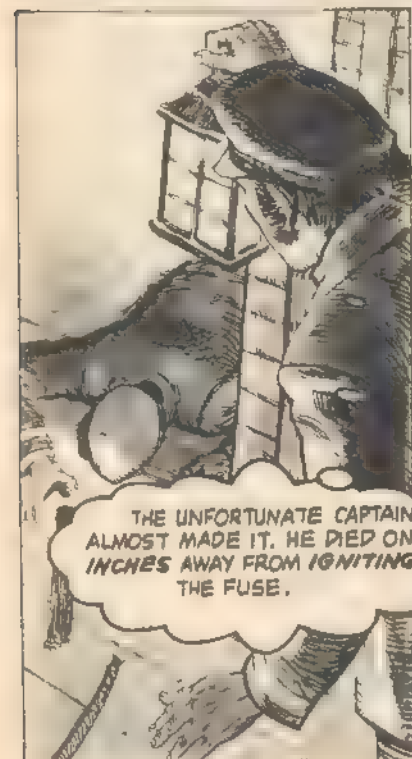
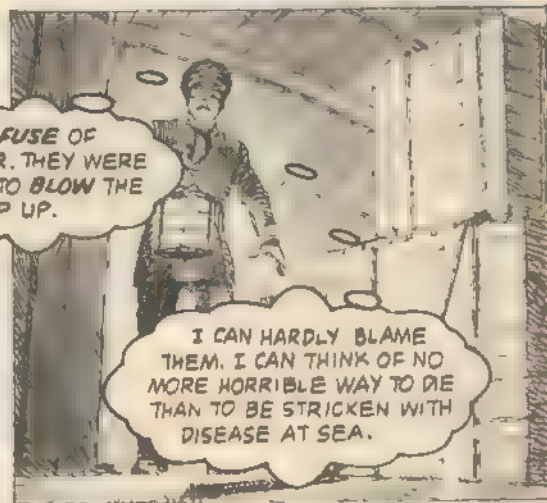
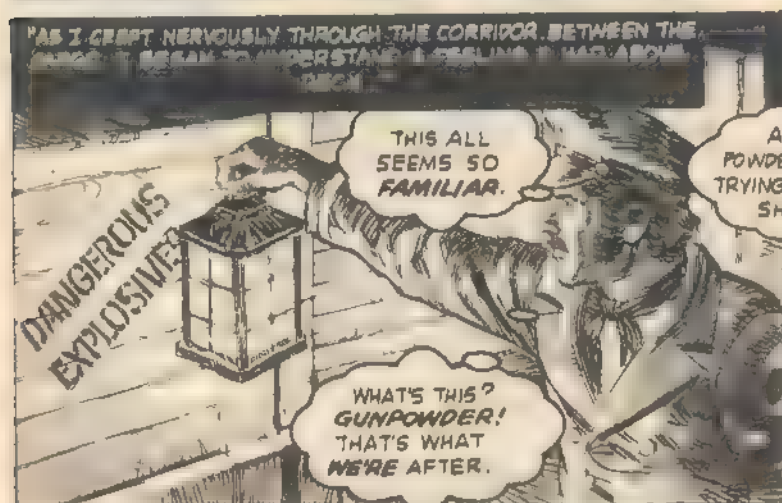
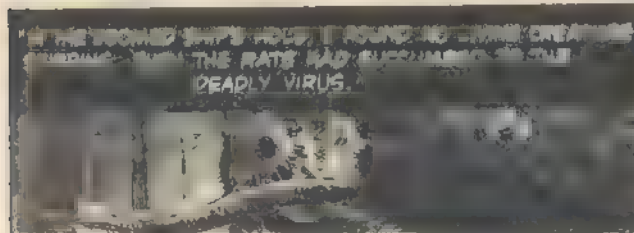
I TELL YOU, IT'S  
PLAGUE, S.R. I'VE  
SEEN... AYE SIR, WHAT-  
EVER YOU SAY.



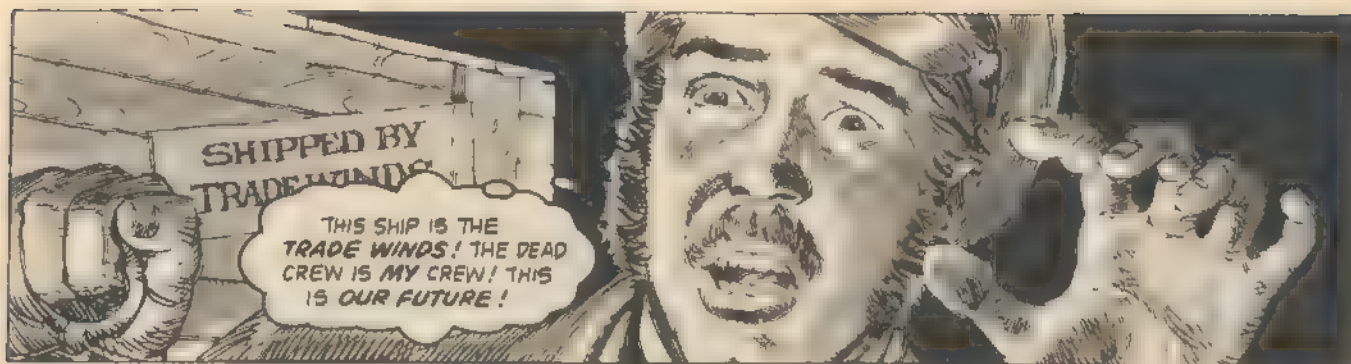
IT APPEARS AS IF  
YOU'RE RIGHT, THOMAS.  
THOSE BOILS COULD HARDLY  
HAVE BEEN CAUSED ANY  
OTHER WAY.

WE SHOULD FIND OUT  
WHO THEY ARE, SIR. IF  
THEY COME FROM CHINA,  
WE MUST AVOID THE  
STRICKEN PORT.

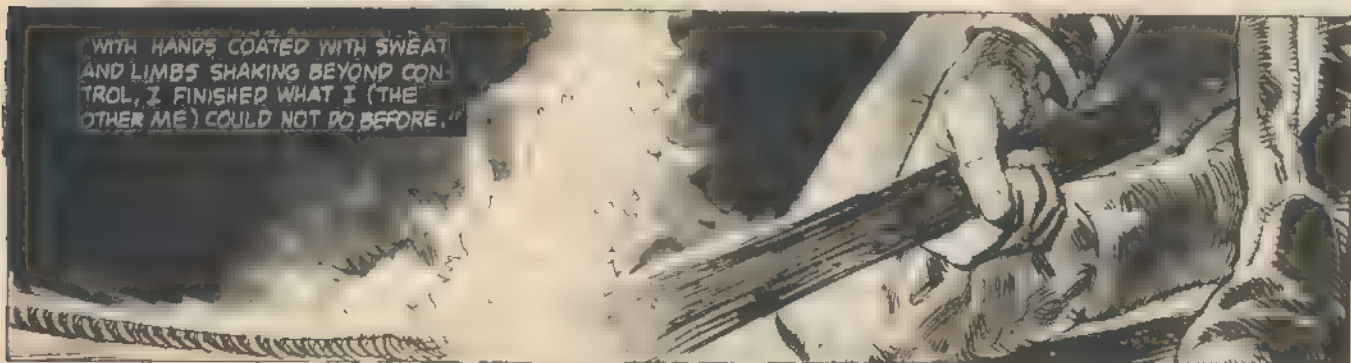




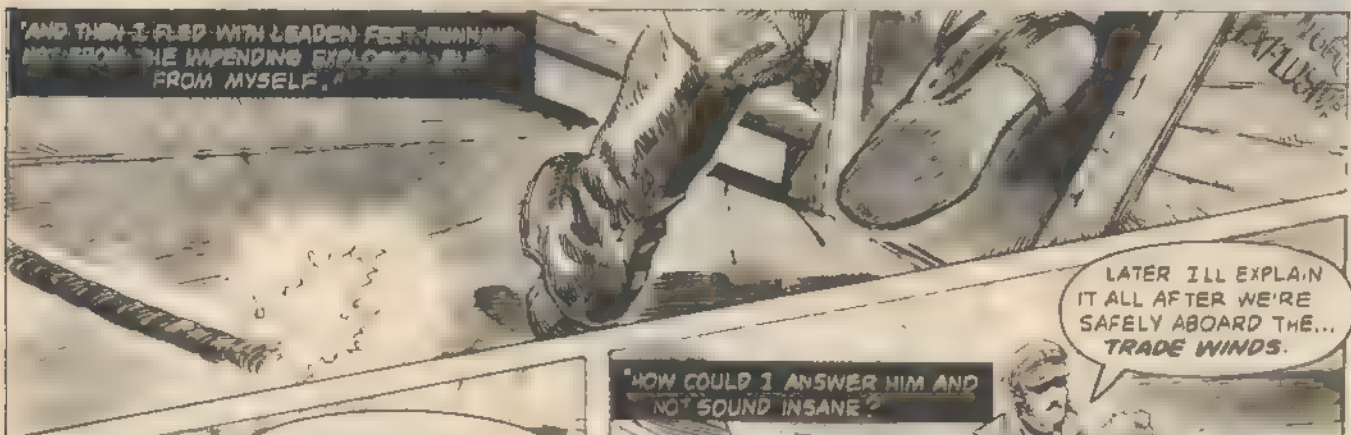




THIS SHIP IS THE  
TRADE WINDS! THE DEAD  
CREW IS MY CREW! THIS  
IS OUR FUTURE!



WITH HANDS COATED WITH SWEAT  
AND LIMBS SHAKING BEYOND CON-  
TROL, I FINISHED WHAT I (THE  
OTHER ME) COULD NOT DO BEFORE.



AND THEN I FLED WITH LEADEN FEET, RUNNING  
FROM THE IMPENDING EXPLOSION, AWAY  
FROM MYSELF.



I COULDN'T FIND  
THE LOG, SIR.

NEVER MIND. I'VE SET  
THE FUSE TO THE GUNPOWDER  
CARGO. THE SHIP IS GOING TO  
EXPLODE.

WHAT! BUT WHY  
DID YOU DO THAT,  
SIR?



HOW COULD I ANSWER HIM AND  
NOT SOUND INSANE?

LATER I'LL EXPLAIN  
IT ALL AFTER WE'RE  
SAFELY ABOARD THE...  
TRADE WINDS.

AYE, SIR, THERE'S  
NO TIME FOR  
EXPLANATIONS NOW

"WHEN I SAW THE SHIP, MY SHIP, TURN INTO A  
BLOSSOM OF FLAME ON THE COLD DARK SEA,  
I KNEW THAT MY STORY WOULD SOUND  
CREDIBLE TO MY CREW."

"THEY ARE BUT IGNORANT SAILORS. I'M HERE  
FOR WISER EYES."

KA-BOOM!





WE SHOULD TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE PLAGUE, SIR.

MISTER THOMAS, THE CREW DIED OF... **FOOD POISONING**. THE EXPLOSION WAS SET ACCIDENTLY. IS IT **CLEAR** WHAT I'M SAYING TO YOU? YOU WILL TELL NO OTHER TALE OR SPEND THE VOYAGE IN CHAINS.

IT'S CLEAR, SIR. VERY CLEAR.

WE CONTINUED OUR VOYAGE AND DOCKED AT SHANGHAI, FINDING A RELIEF TO ENTER PORT AND NOT HAVE TO LISTEN TO THE MUTINOUS MURMURINGS OF MY CREW.



CAPTAIN, WOULD YOU KINDLY DESCRIBE YOUR CARGO AND TELL US THE NAME OF YOUR CRAFT.

WE'RE DELIVERING WOOD, NAILS, MOLASSES AND OIL IN EXCHANGE FOR SILKS AND GUNPOWDER. MY SHIP IS THE **TRADE WINDS**.



**TRADE WINDS?** BUT THIS IS A COINCIDENCE. MY RECORDS SHOW THE **TRADE WINDS** LEFT OUR PORT ONLY A FEW MONTHS AGO!

THERE IS A **BRITISH** SHIP BY THAT NAME, OURS IS **AMERICAN**.

UH...YES, MY FATHER OWNS THE **AMERICAN**...OUR... COMPANY. I'M NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH THE **BRITISH TRADE COMPANY**



CAPTAIN, FORGIVE ME FOR MENTIONING THIS BUT SHOULDN'T WE REPORT THE **DESTRUCTION** OF THE OTHER SHIP?

THERE WAS NO OTHER SHIP IT NEVER EXISTED! IF YOU EVER MENTION IT TO ME AGAIN, I'LL HAVE YOU **FLOGGED**!



THE MEN HAVE ALREADY BEGUN THEIR **LIBERTY**. I SUGGEST THAT WE JOIN THEM.

I HAVE NOT HEARD OF A **BRITISH** FREIGHTER BY THAT NAME. THOMAS IS LYING - TAKING ADVANTAGE OF MY **INEXPERIENCE**.



MADAME CHOU'S PLACE WAS FAMOUS FOR ENTERTAINING TRAVELERS, BUT EVEN THE THIEVES OF ORIENT COULD NOT BREAK AN UNBROKEN MOOD.



OVER HERE, WE'VE GOT MORE RICE WINE!



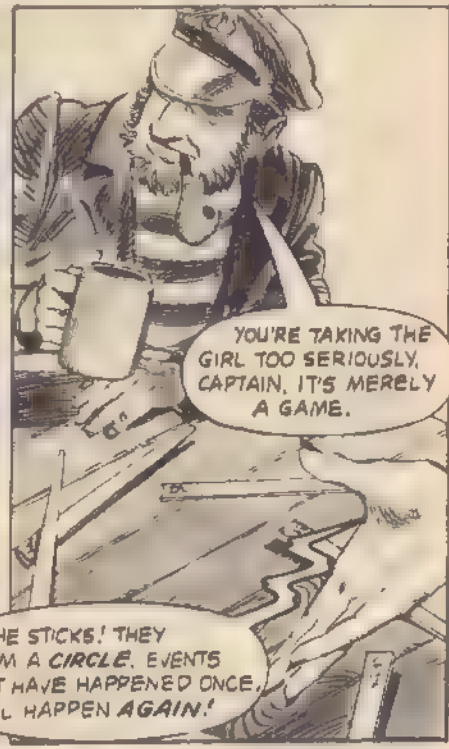
I TELL FORTUNES, HONORABLE CAPTAIN, MAY I TELL YOURS?

GO AHEAD, BUT I'VE ALREADY GLIMPSED INTO MY FUTURE.



THESE ARE THE CHINESE STICKS. EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS A POSSIBLE FUTURE. HOW THEY FALL WILL TELL US YOUR FATE.

WILL I EVER SEE MY WIFE AGAIN?



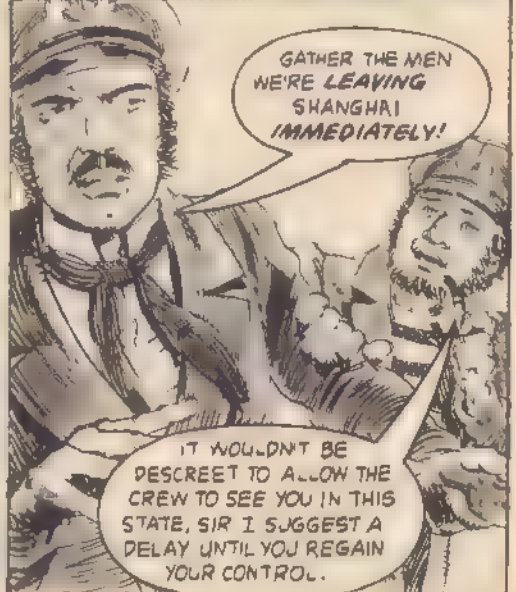
YOU'RE TAKING THE GIRL TOO SERIOUSLY, CAPTAIN, IT'S MERELY A GAME.

THE STICKS! THEY FORM A CIRCLE. EVENTS THAT HAVE HAPPENED ONCE, WILL HAPPEN AGAIN!



IT'S TRUE! WE ARE DESTINED TO MEET OURSELVES AT SEA. WE'RE CAUGHT IN A VORTEX OF TIME.

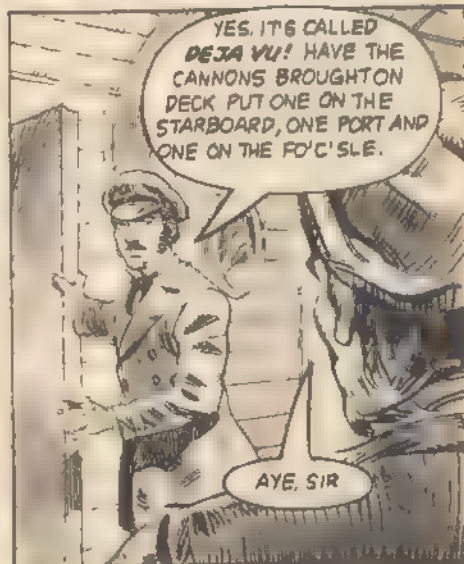
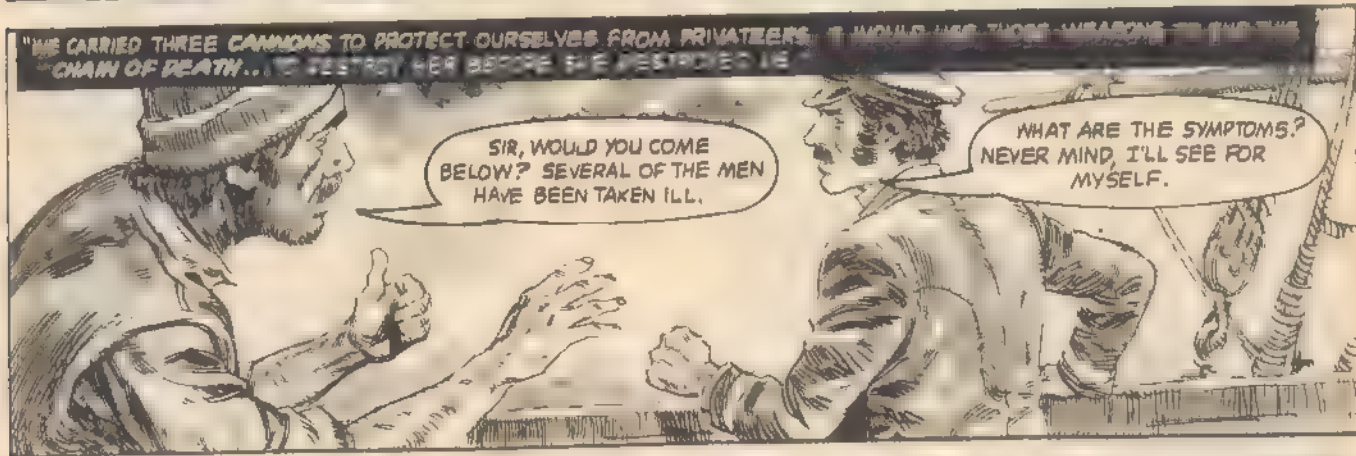
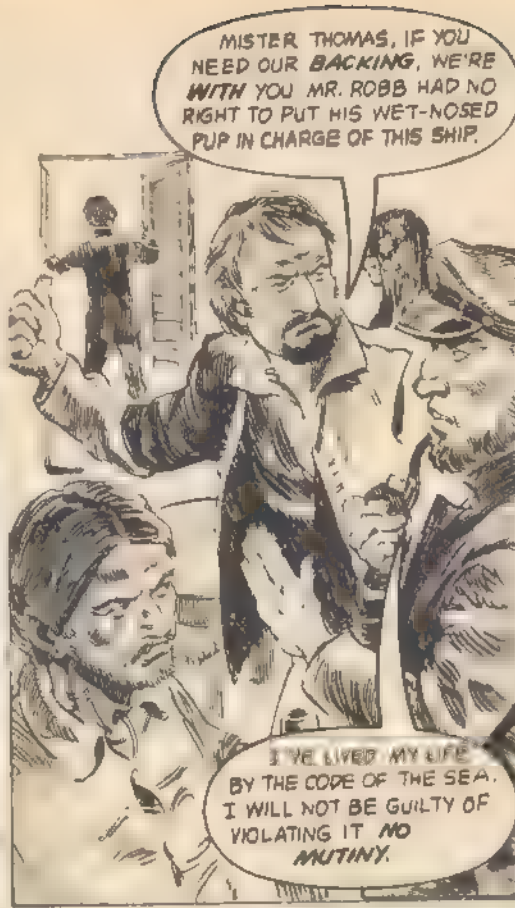
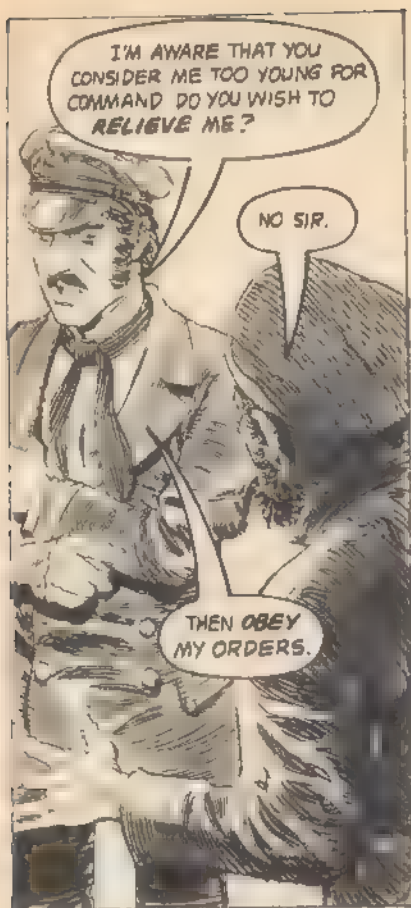
CAPTAIN, WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?



GATHER THE MEN WE'RE LEAVING SHANGHAI IMMEDIATELY!

IT WOULDN'T BE DESCREET TO ALLOW THE CREW TO SEE YOU IN THIS STATE, SIR I SUGGEST A DELAY UNTIL YOU REGAIN YOUR CONTROL.



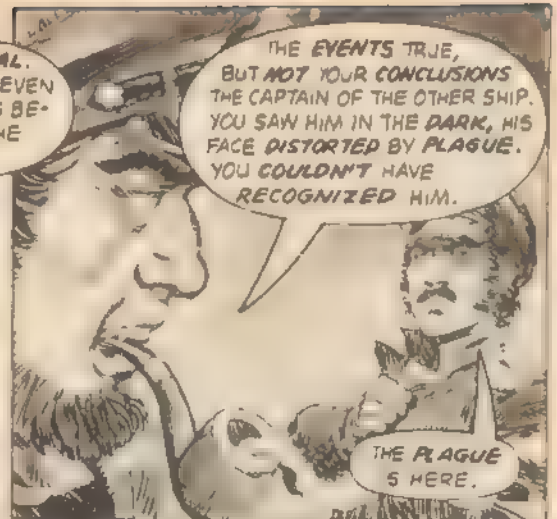






SIR, I'VE BEEN READING YOUR LOG. THEY'RE THE NOTES OF A MAD MAN! YOU CAN'T TRULY BELIEVE THIS FANTASTIC THEORY OF YOURS.

THE EVENTS ARE REAL. YOU CAN CONFIRM THEM. EVEN THE STORM IS AS IT WAS BEFORE. DO YOU RECALL THE TATTERED FLAG?



THE EVENTS TRUE, BUT NOT YOUR CONCLUSIONS. THE CAPTAIN OF THE OTHER SHIP. YOU SAW HIM IN THE DARK, HIS FACE DISTORTED BY PLAGUE. YOU COULDN'T HAVE RECOGNIZED HIM.

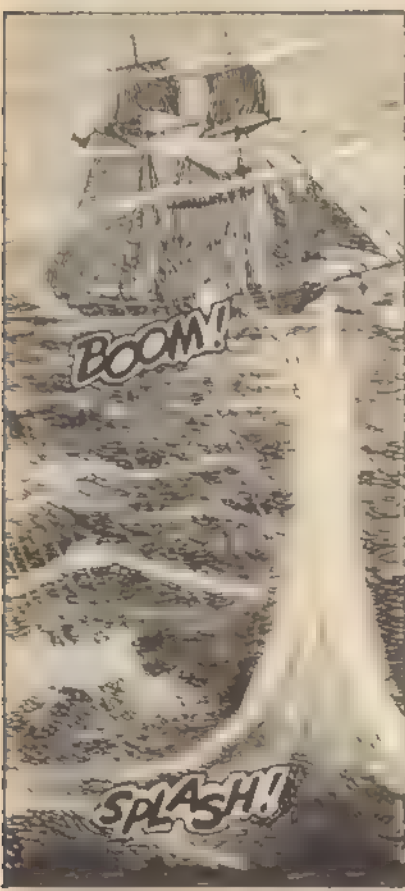
THE PLAGUE IS HERE.



BROUGHT HERE BY US FROM THE OTHER SHIP OR FROM SHANGHAI WHERE THE OTHER TRADE WINDS CAUGHT IT.

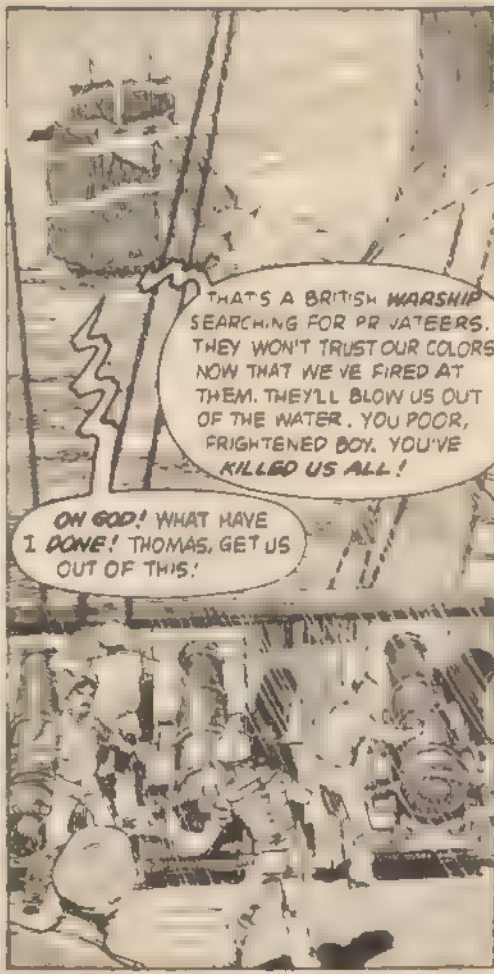
AND THAT SHIP

WHAT SHIP IS THERE IF NOT THE TRADE WINDS? FIRE THOSE CANNONS!



BOOM!

SPLASH!



THAT'S A BRITISH WARSHIP SEARCHING FOR PR JATEERS. THEY WON'T TRUST OUR COLORS NOW THAT WE'VE FIRED AT THEM. THEY'LL BLOW US OUT OF THE WATER. YOU POOR, FRIGHTENED BOY. YOU'VE KILLED US ALL!

OH GOD! WHAT HAVE I DONE! THOMAS, GET US OUT OF THIS!



"BUT IT WAS TOO LATE TO RUN TO HIA. NOW SO I CONTINUE TO WRITE UNTIL THE END IN HOPES THAT THIS LOG WILL BE FOUND AND OTHERS MAY LEARN FROM IT."

BA-POOM!

"IN A WAY, I WAS RIGHT. THE TRADE WINDS DID SUFFER. SIMILAR FATES, EVENTS THAT HAPPENED ONCE HAVE HAP--"



DURING THE ELEVENTH CENTURY A.D., KUBLAI KAHN SENT HIS HORDES AGAINST THE WORLD. BLOOD FLOWED AS DEEP AS THE STIRRUP IRONS OF THE FIERCE MONGOL WARHORSES, FROM RUSSIA TO KOREA.

LAND-NO!

YES, I SEE IT, KASELM!

AN ISLAND KINGDOM, RIPE FOR PLUNDER!

THEN, WHEN THE MONGOL HORDES FINALLY STOOD UPON THE RUINS OF KOREAN TEMPLES, THEY CAST THEIR EYES ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

THIS CURSED VOYAGE HAS LEFT US SICK AS DOGS BUT I'LL WAGER THE COMING BATTLE WILL MAKE US FEEL AGAIN

HENCE A MIGHTY ARMADA OF WARSHIPS

WENT TO SEA

OUR HORSES WENT ACROSS THIS CURSED SEA!

THEY WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW AS SURE AS WE PROBABLY LITTLE ONE.

NO MATTER, MY FRIENDS WE'LL NOT NEED THEM TO RAVAGE THAT ISLAND OF 20 MEN

THE APPROACHING FLEET, HOWEVER, DID NOT

YOU ARE OLD, MY HUSBAND IT'S MY WISH THAT YOU LEAVE THIS BATTLE FOR YOUR SONS

SO SORRY, WIFE, BUT HONOR DEMANDS THAT I MYSELF DEFEND MY EMPEROR NEW

JAPAN'S WARRIOR WOULD FIGHT TO KEEP ITS SOIL INVIOLENT...

I KNOW WAR, AND AT MY AGE DO NOT RELISH ITS APPROACH. YET ALL MY LIFE I HAVE CARRIED MY SWORD IN READINESS AS BECOMES A SAMURAI...

AND NOW, SINCE IT IS NECESSARY, I WILL USE IT ONE FINAL TIME!

SOB SOB

AND ALL WHO COULD FIGHT TO REBEL

NO, FATHER YOU LOOK SPLENDID I AM PROUD TO BE YOUR SON...

AND MY SWORD QUIVERS TO DRINK MONGOL BLOOD!

AT YOUR AGE I TOO WAS EAGER FOR BATTLE HA! IT IS A WONDER I LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO ACQUIRE GOOD JUDGEMENT, COME!

THOSE WHO WERE INVOLVED

THOUSANDS OF SHIPS COME!

OH LOOK MAMA! PRETTY BOATS!

INDEED, THEY CROWD THE HARBOR!

HA HA! WE FEAR FUTURE PILLAGE AND DESTRUCTION AND YOUR BABE SEES ONLY WHAT IS THERE...PRETTY BOATS IN HIS CHILDISH WISDOM HE FINDS IT BEAUTIFUL!

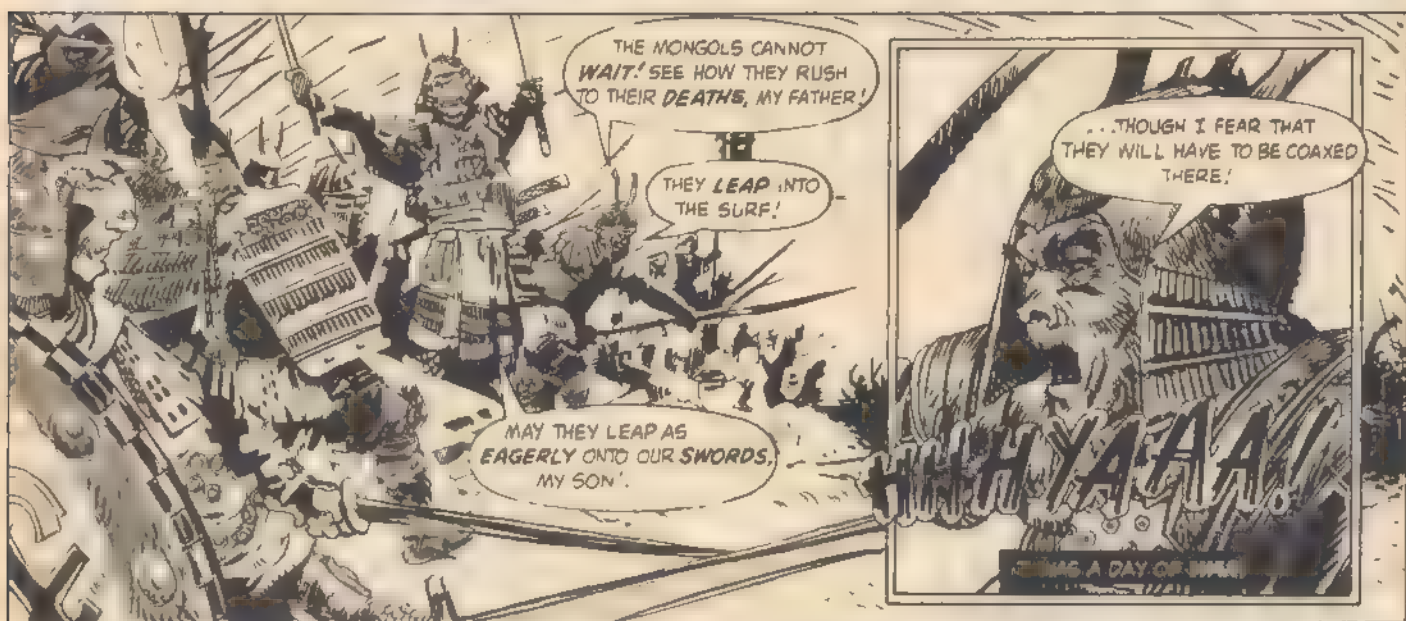
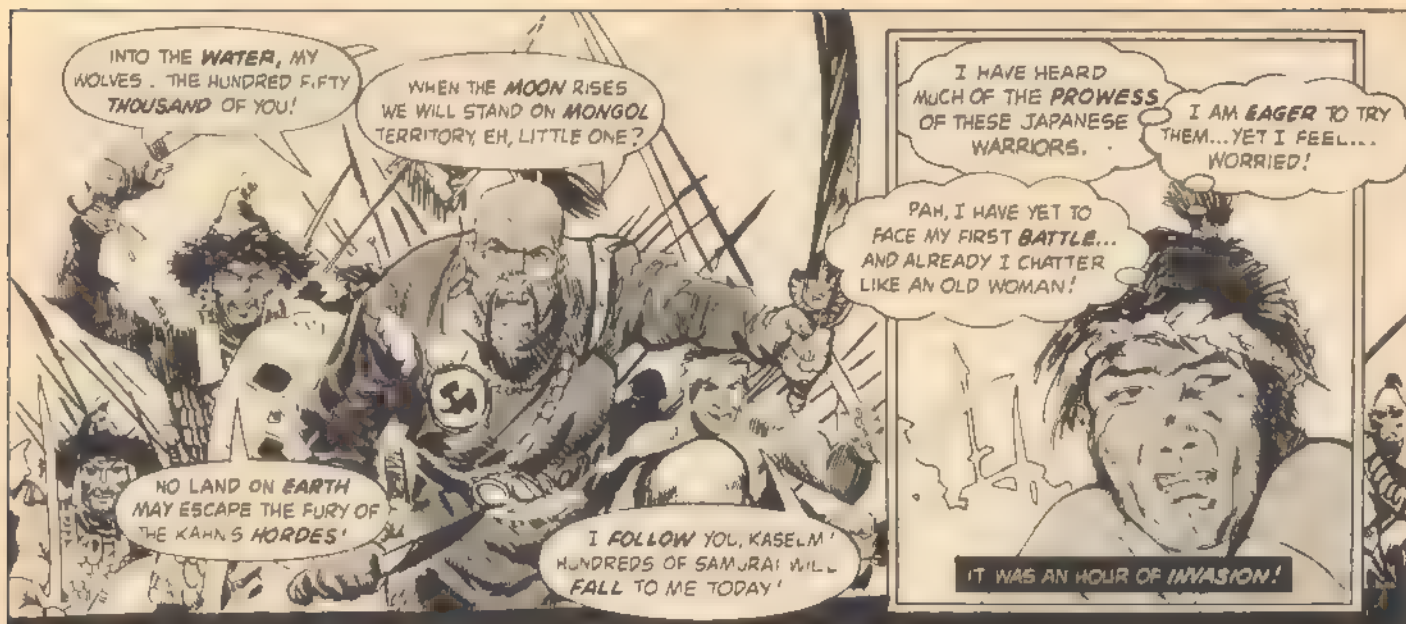
COME WE WILL ENTER THE TEMPLE AND PRAY TO OUR GODS TO INTERVENE

...FOR THE GODS HAVE INFINITE POWER...EVEN OVER THIS FLEET OF PRETTY BOATS

WARRIOR FACES WARRIOR AND WE WILL BE CRUSHED BETWEEN THEM.

# DIVINE WIND







NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD HAD JAPAN BEEN ATTACKED FROM OUTSIDE BY ARMED MILITARY MIGHT.

HHHE EEEYAHHHHH!

MONGOL WARRIORS, WHO HAD ALWAYS BEFORE FOUGHT FROM HORSEBACK, LEAPT EAGERLY INTO THE FRAY!

AT THEM  
LITTLE ONE

CHRISTEN YOUR  
AXE IN SAMURAI BLOOD!

THOUSANDS OF  
SAMURAI DIE...AND STILL  
THE MONGOLS SWARM LIKE  
LOCUSTS! WHY CAN WE NOT  
DRIVE THEM BACK?

THEY ARE, INDEED, FIERCE  
FIGHTERS... AND THEIR  
WAYS OF BATTLE ARE  
NEW TO MY OLD BONES!

STILL THIS ONE,  
AT LEAST, HAS SWUNG  
HIS LAST SWORD!

ARGH!

UGH!

A THOUSAND TIMES  
WE HAVE RIDDEN AMID  
SOLDIERS AS SKILLED AS  
THESE BUT NOW! WE  
CANNOT TURN THEM  
BACK! WHY??

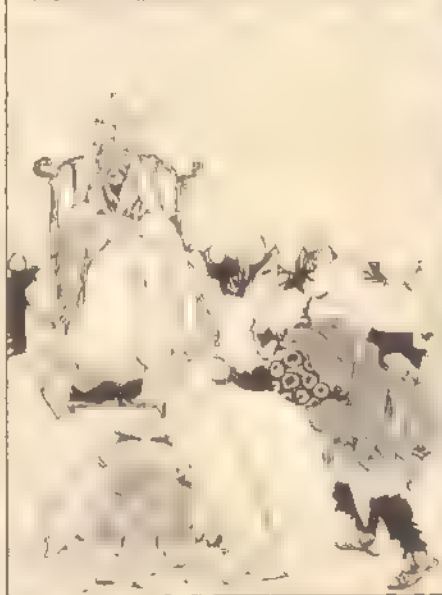
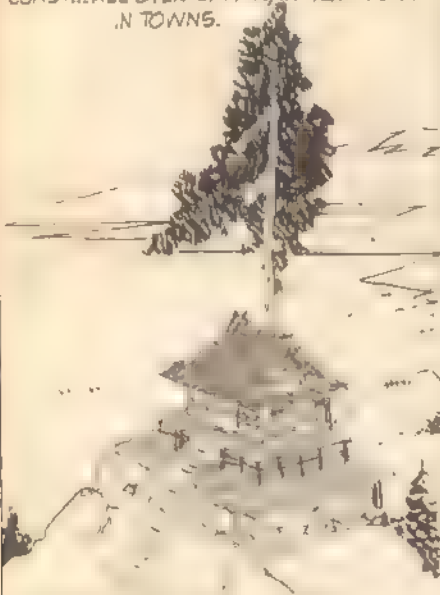
THE SAMURAI, MIGHTY FIGHTERS IN SINGLE COMBAT, SWING THEIR SWORDS IN THE VICIOUS, DISORGANIZED BATTLE.

BOTH SIDES FIGHT ON

AND WHILE THE BATTLE RAGED ON THE COAST...ALL OVER JAPAN, IN TEMPLES, IN TOWNS.

FARMERS, FISHERMEN, NOBLES,  
PRESTES PRAYED FOR INTERVENTION...

THEY PLEADED WITH THEIR ANCIENT GODS FOR DELIVERANCE FROM THE HORDES THAT THREATENED THE SECURITY OF THE ISLAND OF THE GODS.





BY THE GODS!  
YOU ARE BUT AN  
OLD MAN!

HAI! YOU'LL FIND  
THESE *ANCIENT ARMS*  
EQUAL TO THE TASK

...OF FELLING  
BARBARIANS!

KASELM!  
MY BROTHER

YOU HAVE SLAIN  
HIM! NOW YOU'LL ANSWER  
TO ME FOR HIS DEATH!

**AWAY, PUP!**  
**SAMURAI DO NOT**  
**FIGHT CHILDREN!**

SHIELD YOUR-  
SELF, SAMURAI...

...FOR I WILL  
TAKE YOUR HEAD...

44664

...AS YOU TOOK  
KASPLAN'S!

AARGH!  
AN ARROW

SO INTENSELY DID THE LOGIC MAKE SENSE THAT NEITHER MONSIEUR NOR SAMURAI WERE QUICK TO  
 LEAVE THE SHARPLY BLOWING CLOUDS THAT DARKENED THE SKYING, AND AS THE NIGHT  
 DEEPENED, THE CLOUDS GAVE WAY TO THE MOON.

DESULTORY

A FINE BATTLE,  
SALIM! YOU AVENGED  
YOUR BROTHER WELL!

HAD I NOT  
FALLEN TO THAT  
ARROW

ENOUGH, YOUNG  
WARRIOR THE BATTLE  
HAS QUIETED.

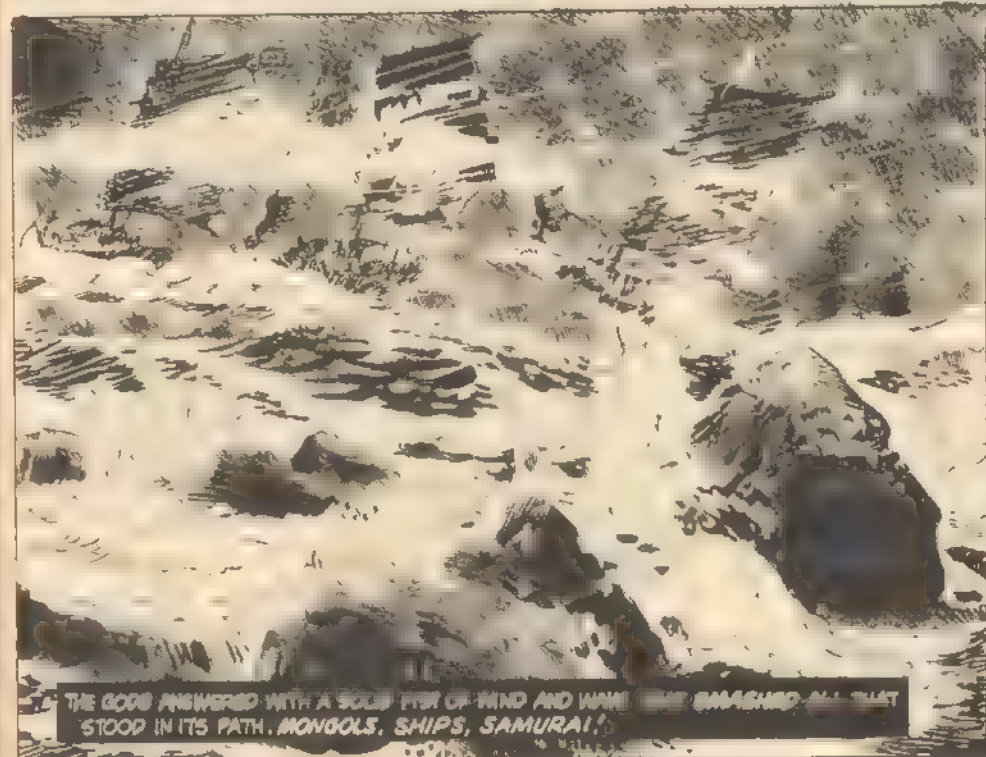
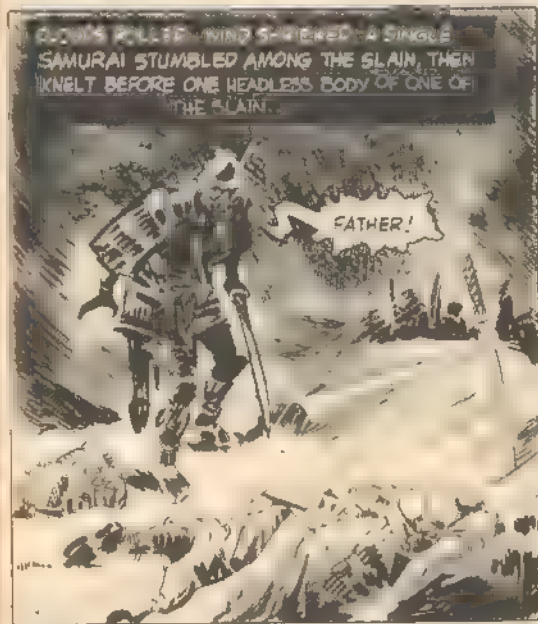
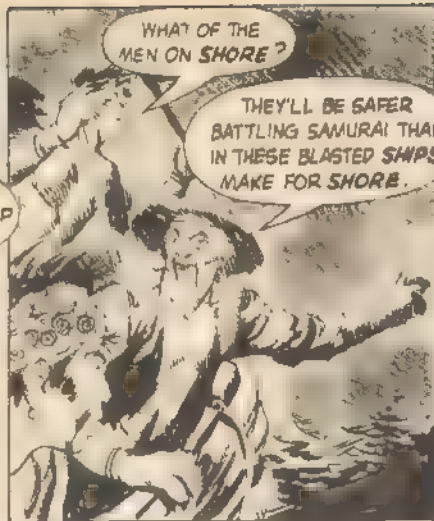
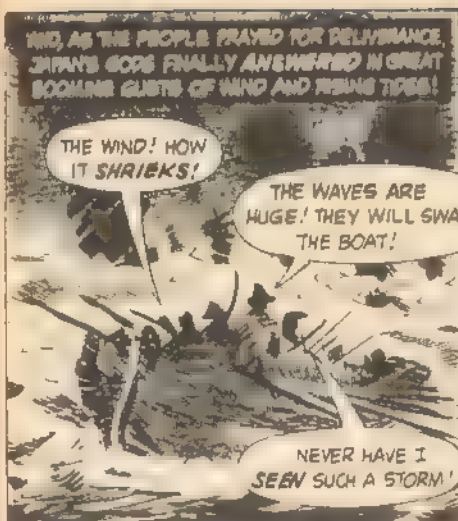
THERE IS A STORM  
BREWING AND THE SAMURAI  
MUST BE SUPERSTITIOUS SEE,  
THEY ARE MOVING OFF!

INTO THE BOATS.  
TOMORROW OUR HORSES  
ARRIVE IN SHIPS FROM  
KOREA.

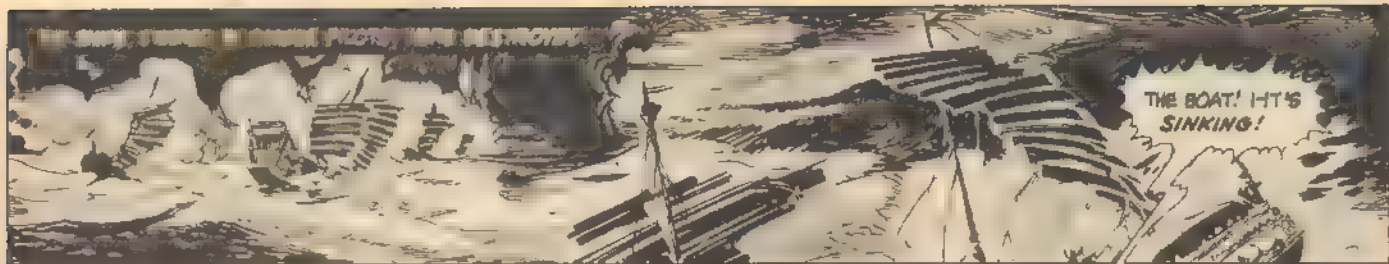
THEN NO POWER  
ON EARTH CAN STOP  
OUR ONSLAUGHT!

WHILE STILL THE PRAYERS OF  
THE FAITHFUL ROSE TO HEAVEN  
THICK AS THE GATHERING  
STORMCLOUDS.









THE SHIP, STORMED IN MONGOL FLOTS, WERE DESTROYED.

THE BOAT! IT'S  
SINKING!



THE MONGOLS, YOUTHFUL, EXUBERANT INVADERS WERE  
WASHED FROM THEIR DECKS INTO THE RAGING SEA...

I-I CAN'T  
SWIM. I CAN'T...

...AND IN THAT SURGING SEA, THERE WAS NO ONE  
ABLE TO ANSWER ANY CRIES FOR HELP.



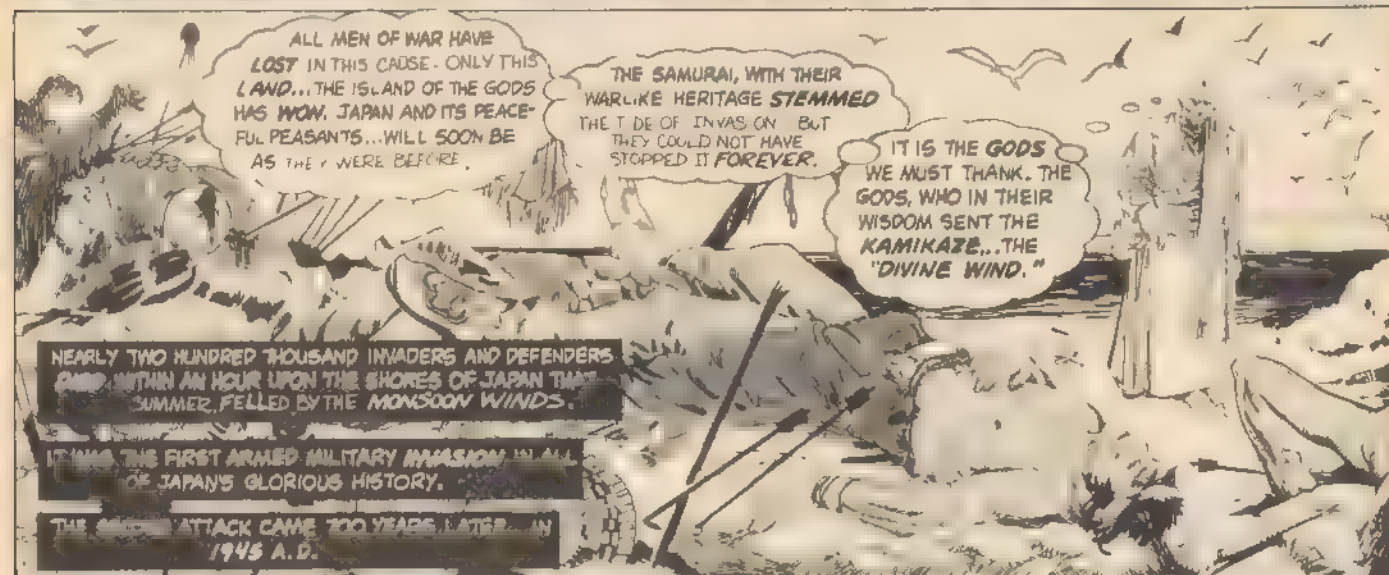
DUTY-BOUND SAMURAI, STILL  
FIGHTING MONGOL STRAGGLERS ON SHORE  
WERE SWALLOWED BY VORACIOUS WAVES.



THEY WERE REDEPOSITED ON THE BEACH...A JUMBLE OF  
WARRIORS...THE FLOTSAM AND JETSAM OF WAR.

JAPAN HAD BEEN SAVED...BUT AT A TENDOUS  
COST.

THE TEMPLE PRIEST SURVIVED THE CARNAGE. BROKEN  
SWORDS, BENT SHIELDS, SODDEN ARROWS  
AND TWISTED, BLOODED BODIES.



ALL MEN OF WAR HAVE  
LOST IN THIS CASSE. ONLY THIS  
LAND...THE ISLAND OF THE GODS  
HAS WON. JAPAN AND ITS PEACE-  
FUL PEASANTS...WILL SOON BE  
AS THEY WERE BEFORE.

THE SAMURAI, WITH THEIR  
WARLIKE HERITAGE STEMMED  
THE TIDE OF INVASION BUT  
THEY COULD NOT HAVE  
STOPPED IT FOREVER.

IT IS THE GODS  
WE MUST THANK. THE  
GODS, WHO IN THEIR  
WISDOM SENT THE  
KAMIKAZE...THE  
"DIVINE WIND."

NEARLY TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND INVADERS AND DEFENDERS  
DIED WITHIN AN HOUR UPON THE SHORES OF JAPAN THAT  
SUMMER, FELLED BY THE MONSOON WINDS.

IT WAS THE FIRST ARMED MILITARY INVASION IN ALL  
OF JAPAN'S GLORIOUS HISTORY.

THE SECOND ATTACK CAME 700 YEARS LATER. IN  
1945 A.D.

END



HE WAS THINKING ABOUT JACKAL AND HOPING HE WASN'T TOO LATE. HE COULD IMAGINE HIM ROLLING ON THE FLOOR IN AGONY, BEGGING FOR RELEASE, DYING SLOWLY, EXCRUCIATINGLY.



HE STEPPED ON THE ACCELERATOR. THE TIRE'S RUBBER AGAINST THE WET PAVEMENT TOOK ON A HIGHER PITCH.

THE DRIVER OF THE MOVING VAN WAS TIRED. HE'D JUST HAULED A SUBSTANTIAL LOAD ACROSS FOUR STATES AND WAS ON HIS WAY HOME TO HIS BEAUTIFUL, YOUNG WIFE, TEN YEARS HIS JUNIOR AND CONNUBIALLY ATHLETIC.

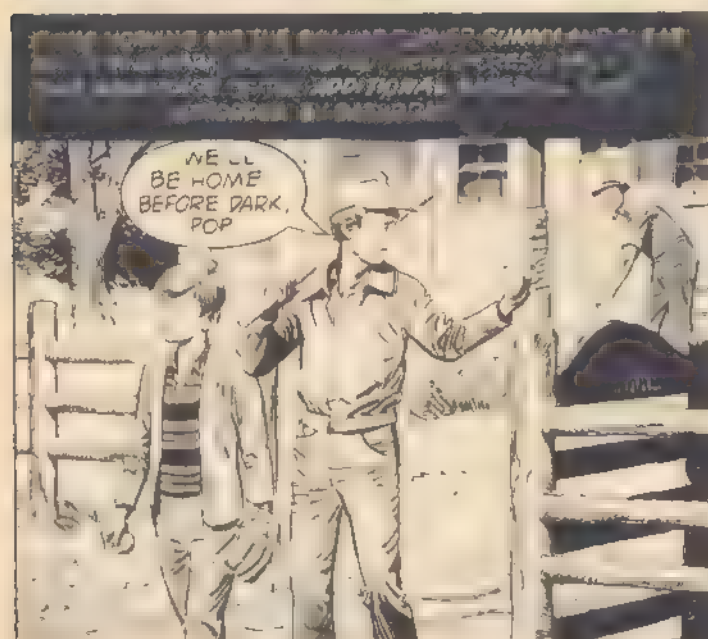
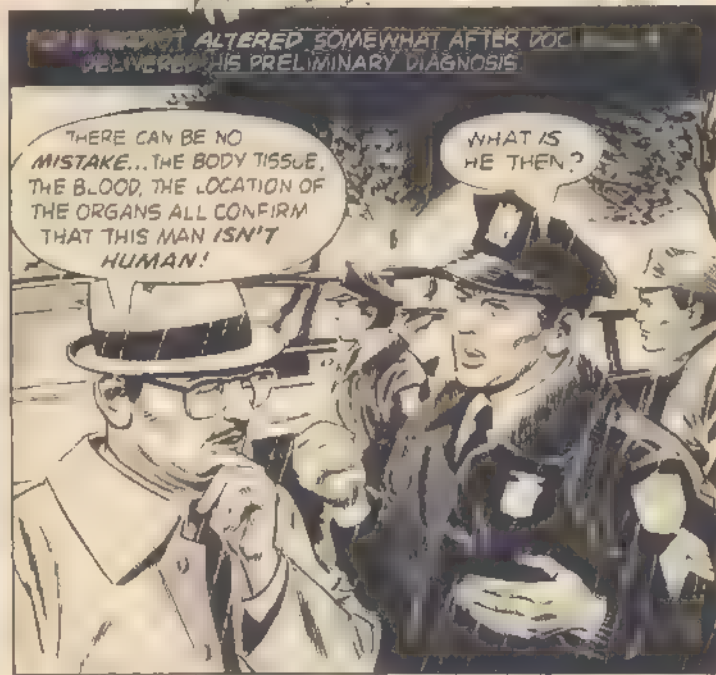


AT FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, ON A LONELY, WINDING, NARROW COUNTRY ROAD, THEY BOTH APPROACHED A BLIND TURN FROM OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS. SCREECH, AS THE BRAKES LOCKED, THEY WENT INTO A SKID. BOTH MEN KNEW THAT NO EARTHLY AGENCY COULD PREVENT THE INEVITABLE CRASH.

# Don't Drink the Water

STORY: GERRY BOUDREAU/ART: MARTIN SALVADOR







THEY PICKED UP ENOUGH OTHER BOYS TO  
FORM TWO SKELETON TEAMS. AND  
TOOK A SHORTCUT THROUGH THE WOODS  
TO GET TO THE CANTINE.



MATTY HEARD THE OTHERS  
RASHED AND SCREAMED THE CANTINE  
TOO LONG DRINK  
FIRST TO DO THINGS  
KOMPAT



MEANWHILE IN A NEARBY BUSH, TOMMY  
WAS DOWN WHERE THE REBELS WERE  
THORNTON. HE WAS ABOUT TO GO TO HIS  
HAYRIDE WHEN HE HEARD A VOICE. IT WAS  
EARTHQUAKE. HE WAS IN SPACE.  
HE WAS IN THE AIR. HE WAS IN THE  
AIR. HE WAS IN THE AIR.



AFTER DRINKING THE CANTINE, TOMMY  
ROSE UP AND WAS TAKEN BY THE  
PROTESTED, BUT WAS OUTVOTED.



THEY WERE ALL RUNNING  
TOWARD THE CANTINE  
AND WERE ALL RUNNING  
TOWARD THE CANTINE  
AND WERE ALL RUNNING  
TOWARD THE CANTINE



MATTY TURNED TO FACE THEM. THEY  
WERE ALL RUNNING TOWARD THE CANTINE  
AND WERE ALL RUNNING



HE SAW NOTHING BUT A BUSH  
TOWARD THE CANTINE  
AND WERE ALL RUNNING  
TOWARD THE CANTINE

THEY LEFT MATTY ALONE WITH  
THE CORPSE.



MARK RELATED THE WHOLE STORY TO HIS POP. WHEN IT WAS CONFIRMED BY THE PARENTS OF THE OTHER BOYS, POP IN TURN RELATED IT TO THE POLICE. THE DESK SARGEANT COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS HAPPENING. FIRST AN ALIEN. THEN A HOMICIDE. TEN YEAR OLD.



MOMENTS BEFORE HE'D RECEIVED WORD THAT DUE TO THE RAPID DECOMPOSITION OF THE ALIEN'S BODY, FURTHER EXAMINATION WAS IMPOSSIBLE. SOON THE BODY WOULD BE SO FAR GONE, NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE THERE HAD BEEN AN ALIEN.

MATTY HAD BEEN AWARE OF WHAT HE WAS DOING, EVEN AS IT WAS HAPPENING, BUT HE WAS POWERLESS TO ALTER HIS BEHAVIOR. HE HAD MURDERED HIS FRIEND AND HE COULDN'T CHANGE THAT EITHER. HE THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HE'D DO NEXT AND TOOK ANOTHER SWIG FROM THE CANTEEN. IT STILL TASTED FUNNY.



HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT WAS BECAUSE IT CONTAINED A CHEMICAL NOT FOUND ON EARTH; A TOXIC WHICH WAS BENEFICIAL TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE WORLD FROM WHICH IT CAME, BUT TO MEN, AND LITTLE BOYS, WAS TOO STRONG, OVERTAKING TO THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

HE ONLY KNEW HE WAS TIRED AND HUNGRY AND SCARED.



WHEN HE WAS ASKED HE KILLED AND STEAL A SMALL DOG. HE SUGGESTED HE WAS ABOUT TWO MILES FROM THE BASEMENT. THE POSITION OF THE SUN IT WAS TWENTY PAST NOON.



HE WANTED TO GO HOME. HE NEEDED TO THINK, TO SLEEP.





WHEN HE ENTERED THE CABIN, THE  
SMELL ASSAULTED HIM. THE MAN  
HAD ONLY BEEN DEAD A FEW HOURS  
BUT, BEING WHAT HE WAS, THE DE-  
COMPOSITION PROCESS WAS ACCELE-  
RATED. MATTY DIDN'T KNOW THIS EITHER  
HE THOUGHT THE MAN'D BEEN DEAD  
FOR DAYS.



ONCE HE GOT RID OF THE BODY AND  
FREQUENTED THE PLACE HE'D BE  
PERFECT!

LET IT BE THE FATHER  
FARMHOUSE!

I WANT TO GO WITH  
YOU. THERE WERE A LOT  
OF TIMES MATTY NEEDED  
ME AND I WASN'T THERE.  
IT'S A BIT LATE, BUT  
THIS TIME I WANT TO  
BE AROUND.



IT'S ALRIGHT AS  
LONG AS YOU HELP! BUT  
IF YOU BECOME A  
HINDRANCE...!

FOLLOWING EXPLICIT DIRECTIONS GIVEN BY  
THE BOYS, THE SEARCH PARTY COMBED THE  
WOODS AND SOON DISCOVERED THE  
SEATED BASEMAN.

YOU KNOW WHAT  
THIS MEANS? THE BOY IS  
A KILLER AND MUST BE  
TREATED AS SUCH. A FATAL  
WOUND DELIVERED BY A TEN  
YEAR OLD IS STILL FATAL.

PLEASE  
DON'T HURT  
HIM ..!



AND WHILE A MOTHER PRAYED FOR  
THE SOUL OF HER MURDERER, THE  
OF TRAUMA ALREADY BEGAN TO  
REAR IN MARK; AND HIS  
LOSS OF APPETITE

WHY DID MATTY  
DO IT? (SNIFF) WHY'D  
HE MURDER DOWNY?...  
HE JUST HIT 'IM AND  
HIT 'IM AND HIT 'IM!



AND NOW THEY'RE  
HUNTING MATTY LIKE AN  
ANIMAL. IT MAKES ME SO  
ANGRY I WANT TO KILL  
'EM... KILL 'EM ALL!

HUSH, MARK!  
TRUST IN GOD'S  
GOODNESS TO  
HELP US.



GOD... HA!  
HE DOESN'T EVEN  
CARE!

IN THE CABIN, THINGS WERE GOING WELL.  
MATTY HAD CONCEALED THE PREVIOUS  
OCCUPANT'S ROTTING BODY IN THE  
BUSHES, JUST OUTSIDE IT HAD BEEN  
A LONG, DIFFICULT TASK, BUT MATTY  
FELT BETTER FOR HAVING DONE IT.



STILL HE WAS MORE TIRED MORE  
THIRSTY THAN EVER.



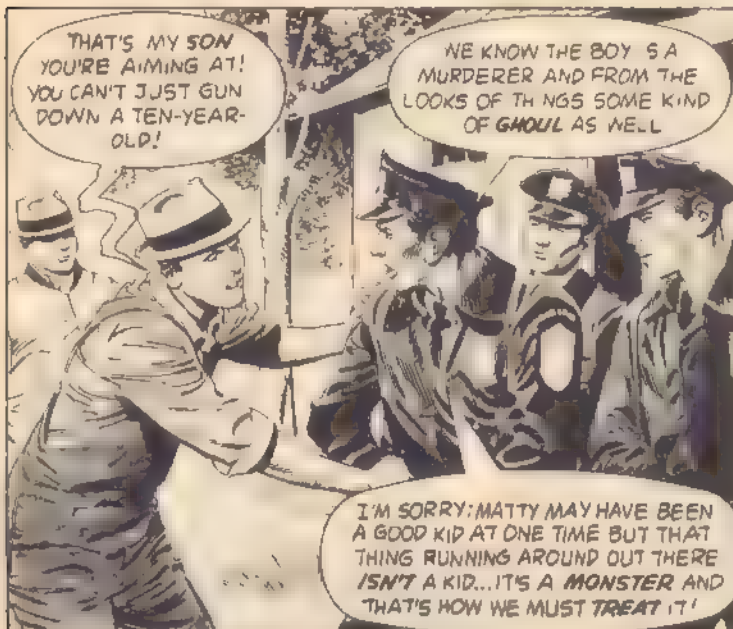
THE SEARCH PARTY HAD PICKED UP THE BOY'S TRAIL WITH RELATIVE EASE. BY LATE AFTERNOON, THEY HAD DISCOVERED THE PARTIALLY EATEN DOG AND THEY WERE CONFIDENT THEIR QUARRY COULD NOT BE FAR AHEAD.

I FEEL CERTAIN THAT THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN WHAT HAPPENED TO MATTY AND THAT ALIEN WHO DIED LAST NIGHT. WISH I KNEW WHAT HIS DEATHBED RAMBLINGS WERE ABOUT!

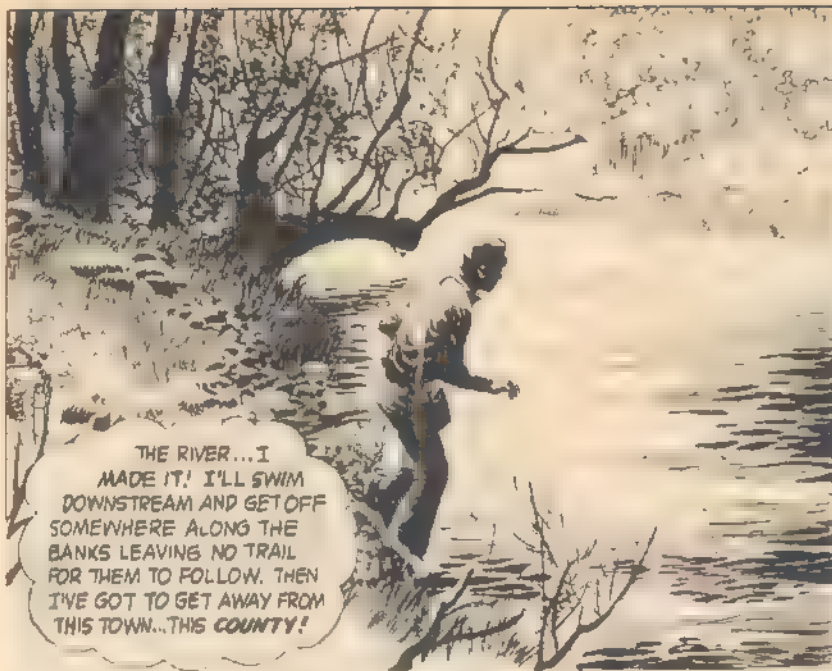
INSIDE THE CABIN, MATTY HEARS THE PARTY'S APPROACH.

THEY'VE TRACKED ME! BUT THEY HAVEN'T TRAPPED ME!

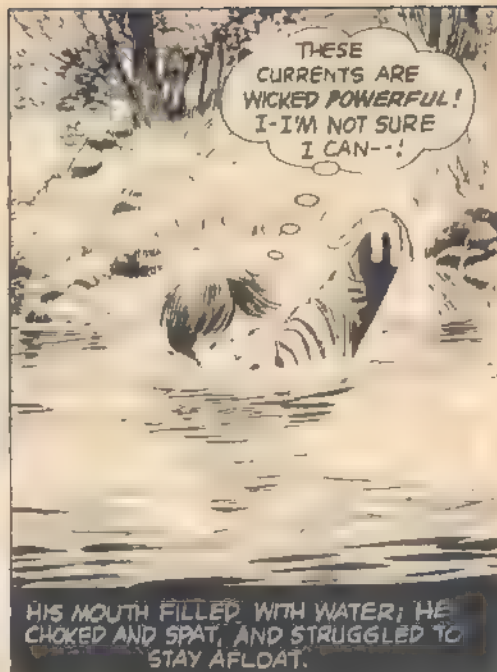
THERE'S A RIVER NOT FAR FROM HERE. IF I CAN MAKE IT TO THAT, THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ME.





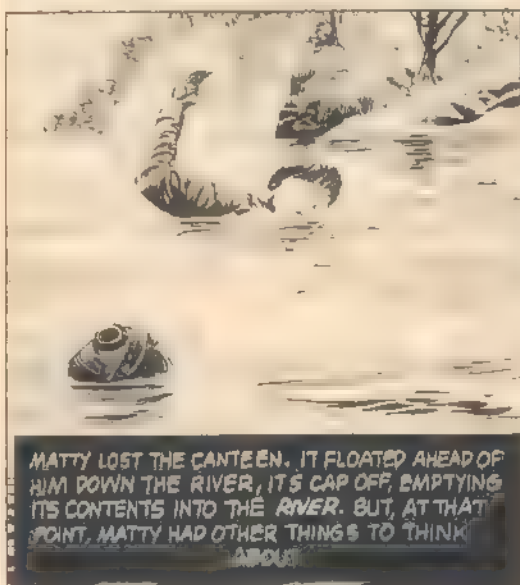


THE RIVER... I  
MADE IT! I'LL SWIM  
DOWNSTREAM AND GET OFF  
SOMEWHERE ALONG THE  
BANKS LEAVING NO TRAIL  
FOR THEM TO FOLLOW. THEN  
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM  
THIS TOWN... THIS COUNTY!

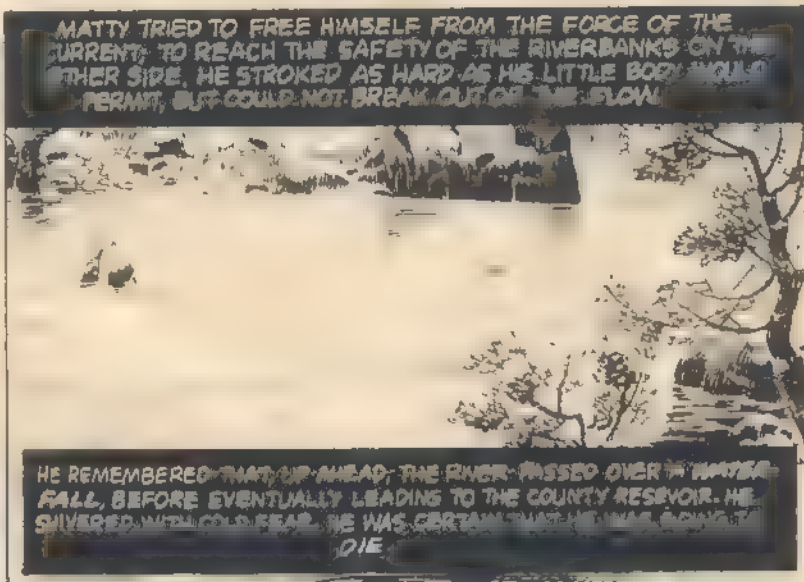


THESE  
CURRENTS ARE  
WICKED POWERFUL!  
I-I'M NOT SURE  
I CAN--!

HIS MOUTH FILLED WITH WATER; HE  
CHOKED AND SPAT, AND STRUGGLED TO  
STAY AFLOAT.

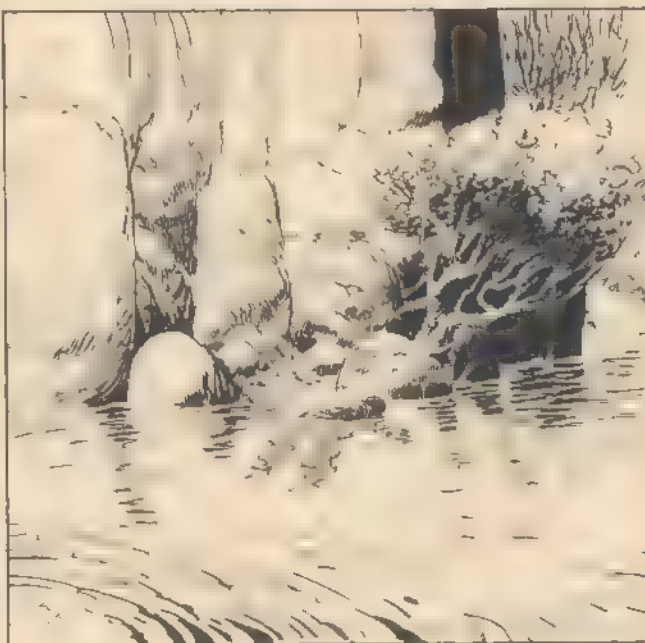


MATTY LOST THE CANTEEN. IT FLOATED AHEAD OF  
HIM DOWN THE RIVER, ITS CAP OFF, EMPTYING  
ITS CONTENTS INTO THE RIVER. BUT, AT THAT  
POINT, MATTY HAD OTHER THINGS TO THINK  
ABOUT.



MATTY TRIED TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THE FORCE OF THE  
CURRENT; TO REACH THE SAFETY OF THE RIVERBANKS ON THE  
OTHER SIDE, HE STROKED AS HARD AS HIS LITTLE BODY WOULD  
PERMIT, BUT COULD NOT BREAK OUT OF THE FLOW.

HE REMEMBERED THAT UP AHEAD, THE RIVER PASSED OVER A WATER  
FALL, BEFORE EVENTUALLY LEADING TO THE COUNTY RESERVOIR. HE  
SHIVERED WITH COLD FEAR. HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HE WAS GOING TO  
DIE.



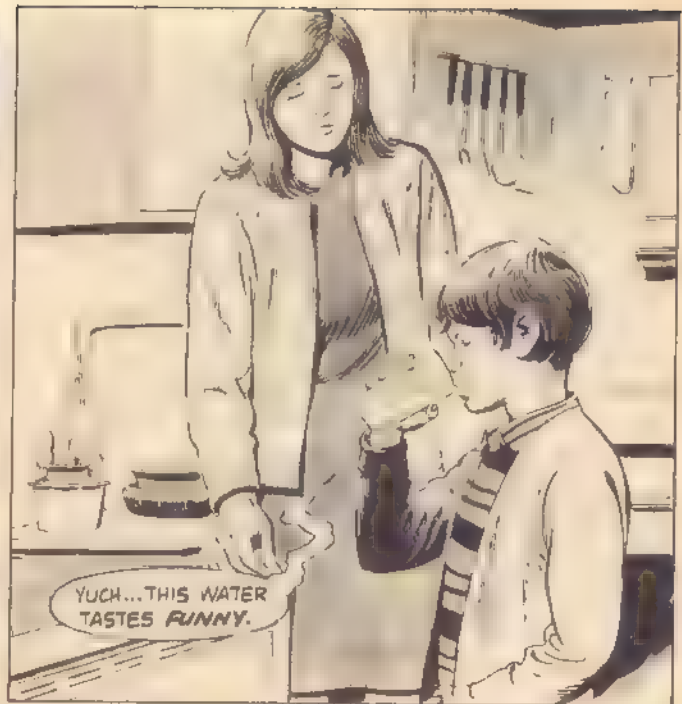


SHE HARDLY MOVED FROM THE WINDOW: LIKE A BUCKINGHAM PALACE SENTRY, SHE STARED STEADFASTLY, UNWAVERINGLY AHEAD, WITH DREADFUL-JOYFUL ANTICIPATION THAT COULD GO FROM ONE TO THE OTHER, MOMENTARILY.



MOMMA, I WANT A GLASS OF WATER! I WANT IT NOW!

ALRIGHT, MARK!

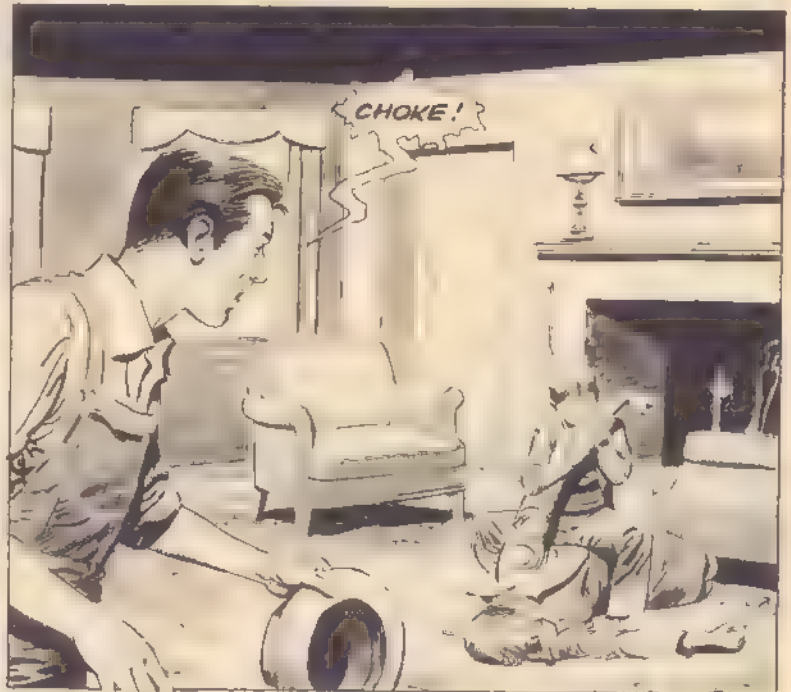


YUCH...THIS WATER TASTES FUNNY.

POP PUSHED OPEN THE SCREEN DOOR SLUGGISHLY; HE FELT LEADEN, ABNORMALLY HEAVY. HE'D NOT YET LEARNED OF MATTY'S DEATH--IT'D BE HOURS BEFORE THE POLICE FOUND THE BOY'S BROKEN BODY AMONG THE ROCKS AND RAPIDS AT THE BASE OF THE WATERFALL--BUT HE ENTERTAINED LITTLE HOPE.



THE HOUSE WAS QUIET; NO ONE CAME RUSHING TO MEET HIM. HIS HEART TIGHTENED, AND HE BLANCHED COLORLESS WITH AN INTUITION TOO STRONG TO BE ANYTHING BUT FACT.

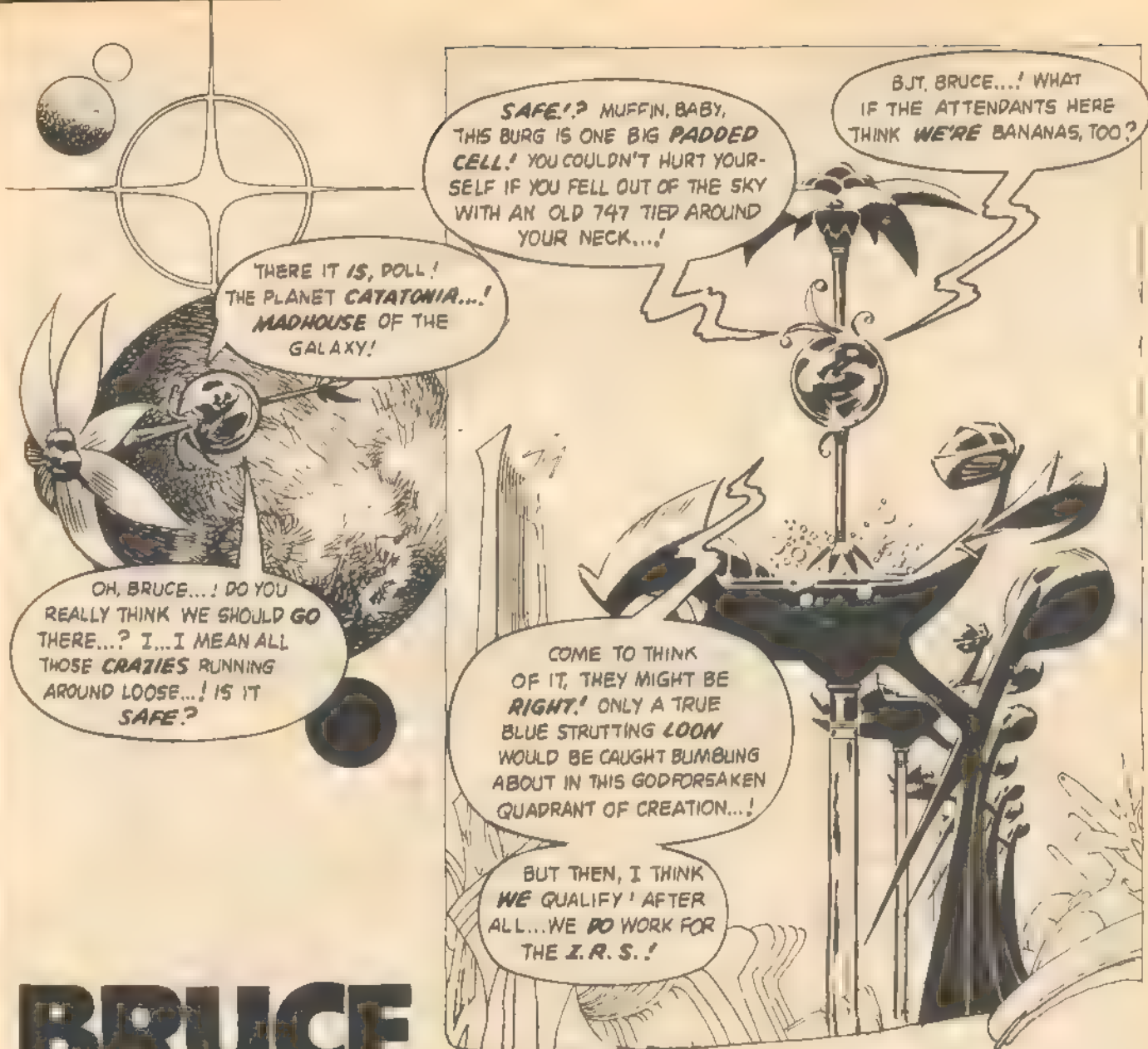


CHOKES!

IN OTHER HOUSES, ON OTHER FARMS, OTHER CHILDREN WERE DRAWING AND DRINKING WATER. IT'D BE DAYS BEFORE THE CONTAMINATION COULD BE TRACED TO THE RESERVOIR AND EVEN THEN, NO ONE WOULD REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT HAD CAUSED IT.



IN THE DISTANCE, POP HEARD THE FIRST OF MANY STRANGE NOISES IN THE NIGHT. IN HIS HOUSE, HE SHED THE FIRST OF MANY TEARS.



# BRUCE BLOODLETTER of the IRS





LISTEN TO THEM  
JOKING ABOUT IT,  
MUFFIE ...!

THEY DON'T SEEM  
TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE  
GET *MILLIONS* OF PEOPLE EVERY  
YEAR FAKING RAMPANT *INSANITY*  
JUST TO *AVOID* PAYING UNCLE  
SUGAR HIS DUE!

AND ONE OF THE  
*BIGGEST* TAX SWINDLERS  
OF ALL IS DISGUISED AS A  
MADMAN EVEN NOW... LURKING  
SOMEWHERE ON THIS VERY  
PLANET!

IF YOU FOLKS DON'T  
MIND, WE'D LIKE TO HAVE  
CHECK IN DOWN HERE AT  
*SANITY CONTROL*... FOR A  
QUICK *PSYCHOLOGICAL*  
PROFILE!

PSYCHOLOGICAL  
PROFILE? *BUT...*  
*BUT--!*

OH, BRUCE I  
*TOLD* YOU THEY'D  
MISTAKE US FOR  
CRACKBRAINS!

IT ASSURES US  
THAT WE'RE NOT  
LETTING IN ANY  
*UNDESIRABLE*  
ELEMENTS...! YOU  
UNDERSTAND!

HEH! HEH! NOT TO  
WORRY FRIENDS! IT'S A  
PRECAUTION TAKEN WITH  
*ALL* INCOMING VISITORS!

AFTER A QUICK RUN THROUGH THE  
*PSYCHO-MOTION SCANNERS*

OH ME! OH MY! THIS  
IS OUTRIGHT *DISASTROUS*!

SOMETHING THE  
*MATTER* WITH  
OUR READINGS,  
DOC?

I'LL SAY!  
ACCORDING TO  
THIS... YOU'RE  
BOTH UN-  
EQUIVOCALLY  
*DEMENTED*!

W-WHAT!?  
THAT'S  
*IMPOSSIBLE*!  
WE'RE AS  
SANE AS  
YOU!

NOT  
ACCORDING  
TO THE *SANI-  
TRON* YOU'RE  
NOT! YOU SHOULD  
BE PUT AWAY  
FOR *GOOD*!

GUARDS!

HOLY  
GUACAMOLE,  
BRUCE! HOW  
DID WE GET  
INTO *THIS*?

OBVIOUSLY,  
SOMEONE WANTS  
US *OUT* OF THE  
WAY, MUFFY! AND  
YOU KNOW WHAT  
*THAT* USUALLY  
MEANS--!

SOMEONE'S BEEN  
CHEATING ON HIS  
*INCOME TAX*!



BRING OUT THE  
**MILITIA!** BREAK OUT  
THE **BOMBS!** STOP  
THE **INFIDELS** BEFORE  
THEY GET AWAY!

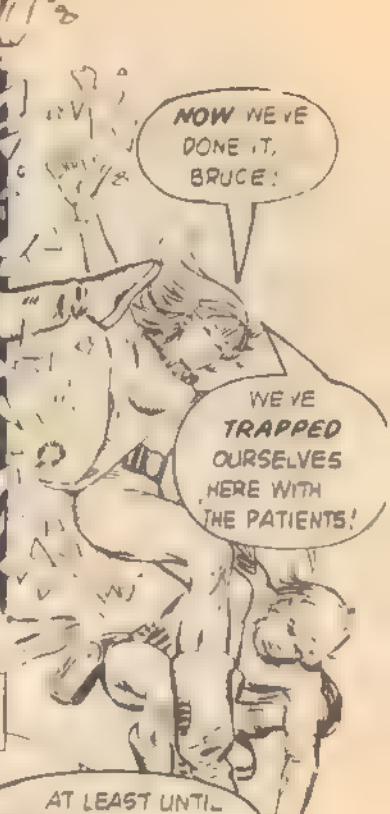


TALK ABOUT **FRUIT-  
CAKES!** I'M BEGINNING TO  
WONDER IF EVEN THE  
**ATTENDANTS** ON THIS  
PLANET ARE SANE!

WE'RE NOT  
WAITING AROUND  
TO **FIND OUT!**



**QUICK, MUFFE!**  
HEAD FOR THE NEAREST  
**WINDOW...**



NOW WE'VE  
DONE IT,  
**BRUCE!**

WE'VE  
**TRAPPED**  
OURSELVES  
HERE WITH  
THE **PATIENTS!**

NOT TRAPPED,  
MY LOVE...! THIS IS  
THE PERFECT PLACE  
TO **HIDE...**

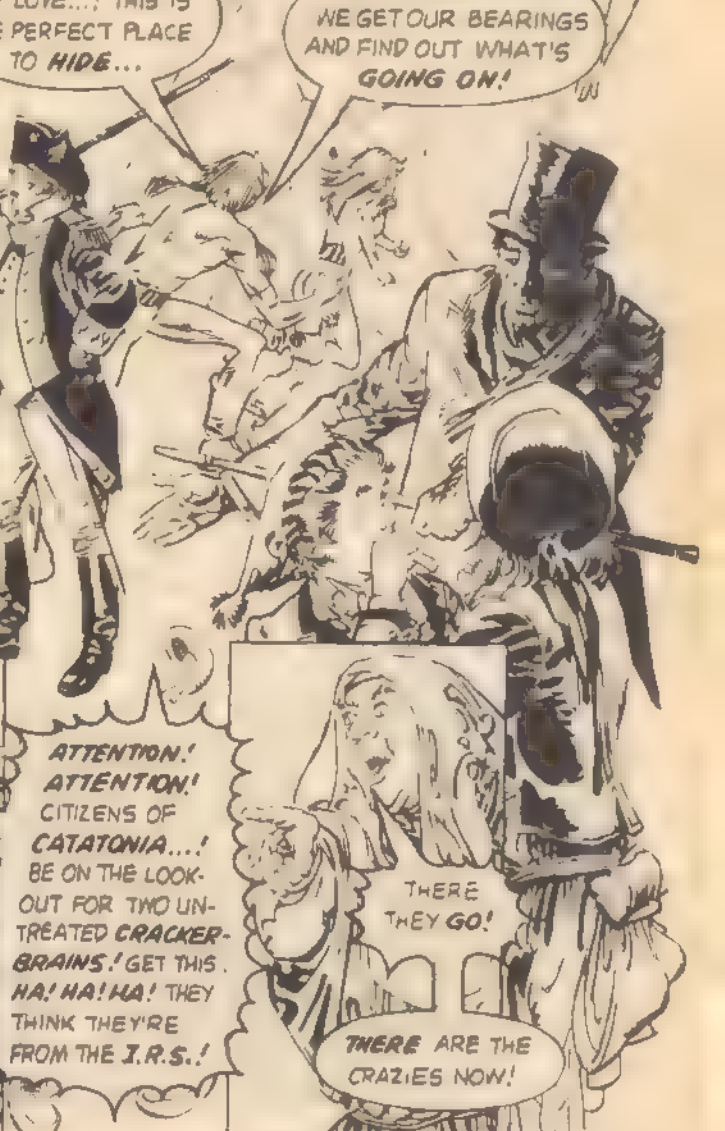
AT LEAST UNTIL  
WE GET OUR BEARINGS  
AND FIND OUT WHAT'S  
**GOING ON!**



THEY'LL NEVER  
SPOT US DOWN HERE  
WITH THESE COSTUMED  
**CRAZIES!** THERE ISN'T  
A **SAFER** PLACE ON  
THIS WORLD...!



I SAY, GERTRUDE...  
THEY'RE LETTING IN JUST  
**ANYONE** THESE DAYS..!



**ATTENTION!**  
**ATTENTION!**  
CITIZENS OF  
**CATATONIA....!**  
BE ON THE LOOK-  
OUT FOR TWO UN-  
TREATED **CRACKER-  
BRAINS!** GET THIS.  
**HA! HA! HA!** THEY  
THINK THEY'RE  
FROM THE **I.R.S.!**

THERE  
THEY GO!

**THERE ARE THE  
CRAZIES NOW!**





STOP! STOP!  
HEY THERE...HOLD UP  
SO WE CAN MEND YOUR  
MINDS...!

OH, BRUCE...! THEY'VE  
SEEN US AND THEY'RE  
GAINING! WHAT'LL WE  
DO?

I'VE GOT  
THE HAMMER!

I'VE GOT  
THE SAW!

I'VE GOT THE  
ROTISSERIE... TO BROIL  
THEIR BRAINS RAW!

YOU KEEP GOING,  
MUFFIE! I'LL TRY  
TO HOLD THEM OFF!  
NO MATTER WHAT  
HAPPENS TO ME...YOU  
NAB THE SWINDLER  
WE CAME HERE TO  
NAIL!



BRUCE!  
DON'T BE A  
HERO! RISKING  
YOUR LIFE TO  
DO YOUR DIRTY  
JOB...! THE  
I.R.S. ISN'T  
WORTH IT! SAVE  
YOURSELF! COME  
WITH ME!



THE I.R.S.  
IS OMNI-  
POTENT! THE  
I.R.S. IS ALL!  
WITHOUT THE  
I.R.S. OUR  
DERRIERES ARE  
UP AGAINST  
THE WALL!

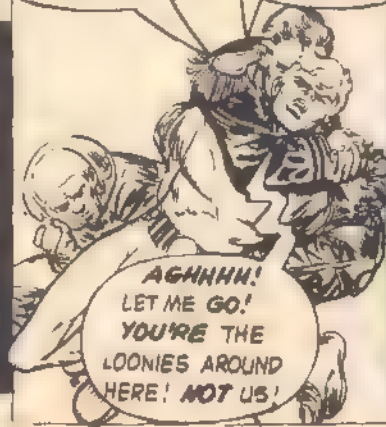


YOU AND THOSE  
DAMNABLE IN-  
DOCTRINATION  
SONGS WILL DRIVE  
ME TO THE BUG-  
HOUSE, YET!

OH, BRUCE!  
YOU'RE BEGINNING  
TO SOUND LIKE  
YOU DO BELONG  
HERE!

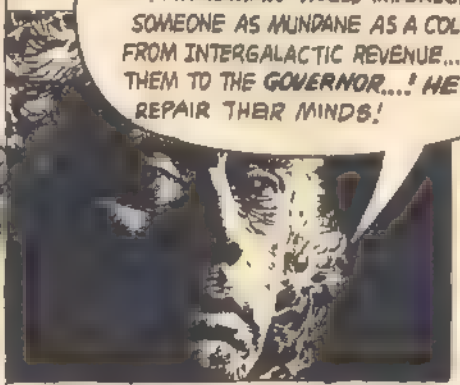
HA! HA! I'VE  
GOT HIM! I'VE  
GOT HIM!

NOW WE  
CAN REBUILD  
HIS BROKEN-  
DOWN BRAIN!



HA! HA! TAKE  
THAT, YOU CRUMMY  
PSEUDO TAX-  
COLLECTING  
CREEP!

LISTEN TO THEM!  
BABBLING LIKE THE INSANE  
FOOLS THEY ARE! WHO BUT  
A MADMAN WOULD IMPERSONATE  
SOMEONE AS MUNDANE AS A COLLECTOR  
FROM INTERGALACTIC REVENUE...? TAKE  
THEM TO THE GOVERNOR...! HE'LL  
REPAIR THEIR MINDS!



AGHHH!  
LET ME GO!  
YOU'RE THE  
LOONIES AROUND  
HERE! NOT US!

AM! SO THESE  
ARE THE CULLIONS OF  
WHOM WE HAVE BEEN  
WARNED!

AND JUST WHAT BRINGS  
YOU **OUTERWORLDERS** INTO  
OUR PEACEFUL LITTLE DOMAIN?

AT LAST WE'RE GETTING  
SOMEWHERE! IF YOU'RE THE  
GOVERNOR OF THIS WORLD,  
PERHAPS YOU CAN **HELP**  
US SIR!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR ONE  
**SILAS T. MENDICANT**... IN A  
MATTER OF HIS FAILURE TO FILE  
HIS LAST DECADE'S TAXES!

ASTUTE LAD! BUT  
**CRAZY AS A LOON!** WE  
CAN'T HAVE **HIS** KIND  
RUNNING LOOSE!

**GUARDS!**

**RESTRAIN  
THEM!**

I GUESS THERE'S  
NO POINT IN RETAINING  
THE DISGUISE ANY LONGER!

**HMMMM!**  
MENDICANT, EH!?  
THE NAME **DOES**  
SEEM TO RING  
A BELL!

NOW WHERE  
HAVE I **HEARD**  
IT BEFORE?

**OH COURSE!**  
**SILAS T. MENDICANT!**  
THAT'S **ME!**

**YOU!?**

**OH GOSH,**  
BRUCE! WE'VE JUST  
ACCUSED THE GOVERNOR  
OF A MOST **HEINEOUS**  
CRIME

HE'S NOT A  
GOVERNOR ANY  
MORE THAN **YOU**  
OR I, MUFFY!

YOU'RE  
**CORRECT!** I'M  
**NOT** SILAS  
MENDICANT,  
GOVERNOR OF  
CATATONIA! I AM  
SILAS MENDICANT...  
**COMMANDER IN  
CHIEF** OF ALL  
CATATONIA FORCES!

AND AS SUCH...  
I ORDER THESE  
MALEFACTORS  
SENT TO THE  
**BRIG!**



Y'KNOW, MUFF... I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THAT MAYBE THAT GUY MENDICANT IS ON THE LEVEL! HE ACTS LIKE HE REALLY IS OVER THE EDGE!

.. WELL, IT JUST MAKES ME THINK THAT THERE'S MORE HERE THAN MEETS THE EYE...!

YOU'VE GOT A POINT, MUFF! EVERY-ONE WE'VE MET HERE, INCLUDING THE SUPPOSED ATTENDANTS, SEEM TO BE A LITTLE OFF THE TRACK--!

YOU DON'T THINK THAT MAYBE THIS WORLD-FULL OF IN MATES HAS OVERCOME THEIR INCARCERATORS...

...AND ARE RUNNING THIS PLACE ON THEIR OWN...!?

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN AN AWFUL LOT!

I'M NOT SO SURE, ANYMORE, BRUCE! HE'S TRICKY!

AND SO MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED TO US SINCE WE'VE ARRIVED THAT.

HECK! THAT'S EASY TO ANSWER, MUFF! THESE RATS ARE GOING TO HELP US GET OUT OF HERE!

AS FOR THE SHIRT--! WELL, HECK, GIRL... YOU'RE GONNA USE THAT TO STRANGLE OUR JAILER!

HELP! GUARDS! HELP US! THESE RATS ARE EATING US ALIVE!

IT WOULDN'T EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE TAKING OFF YOUR SHIRT, THOUGH...

...AND PLAYING WITH THOSE YUCKIE RATS!

FACE IT, KID! IT ISN'T IMAGINATIVE ...BUT IT'S ALL WE'VE GOT!

THAT'S A BOY! WE JUST KNEW YOU'D COME A'RUNNING!

SURE THEY ARE!

GOOD WORK, MUFF! NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS FIGURE OUT WHICH IS THE KEY TO FREEDOM!



I SAY, DEAR  
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO  
WEAR *THAT* SIMPLY  
GAUCHE OUTFIT, ARE  
YOU?

WHY, DAN-LING...  
THIS IS ALL THE  
RAGE!

IT COMPLIMENTS  
MY SCOTTISH TUTU  
*PERFECTLY*. YOU  
KNOW...!

I THINK WE  
LOOK SIMPLY  
*SMASHING!*

LOOK AT THEM, BRUCE!  
ALL OF THE INMATES ARE  
LINING UP IN THEIR FINEST  
NAPOLEON HEADRESS! IT'S AS  
THOUGH THEY WERE GETTING  
READY FOR A TRIP!

THAT MAY BE IT,  
MUFFIE. WHAT SILAS  
MENDICANT HAS UP HIS  
SLEEVE...! HE'S GETTING  
READY TO BREAK THEM  
ALL OUT!

PLEASE, MR SWANSON.  
THINK OF HOW IT WILL LOOK!  
A PURPLE TURBAN WITH A  
GREEN PAISLEY CHEMISE--?

BUT WHERE COULD  
THEY GO? AND HOW  
COULD THEY *ALL*  
POSSIBLY LEAVE?

THEY'D NEED A  
THOUSAND STAR-  
SHIPS OR ONE AS  
BIG AS A *SMALL*  
WORLD!

GOOD HEAVENS!  
IT...IT'S HIM! BRUCE  
BLOODLETTER OF THE  
I.R.S.! HE... HE PUT  
ME HERE! HIS INFERNAL  
AUDITING TANTED MY  
MIND!

G-GET HIM, SOME-  
BODY! S-STOP HIM...  
PLEASE!

UH OH,  
MUFFIE! WE'RE  
IN FOR IT  
NOW!

THERE'S  
NOWHERE TO  
RUN...!

ALL WE CAN  
DO IS..

**FIGHT!**



MY WORD!  
WHAT'S THAT **COMMOTION**  
OVER THERE?

IT DOESN'T  
REALLY **MATTER**  
NOW, DOES IT?

IT LOOKS LIKE  
THAT KID FROM THE  
**I.R.S.** AND **LOOK!**  
THEY'RE BEATING HIS  
BRAINS IN!

YOU DON'T THINK  
HE KNOWS WHAT  
WE'RE **UP TO!**?

WHAT HOPE DO TWO  
MERE **MORTALS** HAVE  
OF STOPPING **ME**? READY  
THE **ESCAPE VESSEL!**

BUT... BUT, **SIR!**  
THE OTHERS AREN'T  
**ABOARD**, YET!

IT IS ONLY  
IMPORTANT THAT **I**,  
SILAS MENDICANT, **ESCAPE**  
THIS DREARY WORLD!

MUFFY!  
**LOOK!** THERE!  
THAT ENTIRE  
CITY BLOCK...!  
IT... IT'S  
**QUAKING!**

JUST LIKE A  
**STARSHIP**  
ABOUT TO  
TAKE OFF!

I SAY, OLD CHAP...  
IT SOUNDS VERY  
MUCH LIKE THEY'RE  
LEAVING **WITHOUT**  
US!

THEY **CAN'T**  
DO THAT!

WHAT DO I  
CARE FOR THE  
OTHERS!

OH, BRUCE... THAT  
CITY BLOCK **IS** A **STARSHIP**!  
AND IT ISN'T HARD  
TO GUESS **WHO'S** AT  
THE CONTROLS!

MENDICANT!  
HE'S ESCAPED  
US AGAIN!  
**CURSES!**

N-NO!  
WAIT FOR  
**MEEE!**

WELL HOW DO YOU  
LIKE **THAT!** THEY LEFT  
**WITHOUT** US, MILDRED! AND  
AFTER WE'VE PURCHASED  
TICKETS FOR A FIRST CLASS  
CABIN!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND,  
BRUCE...! HOW DID THEY BUILD  
A **STARSHIP** UNDER THEIR  
ATTENDANT'S VERY NOSES?

IT MUST HAVE BEEN A  
REHABILITATION PROJECT, MUFFIE!  
IN WHICH **ALL** THE INMATES  
PARTICIPATED!

THAT MENDICANT IS  
PRETTY SHIFTY! HE PROBABLY  
GOT **ALL** OF THE PATIENTS TO  
BUILD HIS SHIP... THEN **CHARGED**  
THEM FOR STATEROOMS  
ABOARD IT!

THAT'S WHY HE'S  
THE **RICHEST** MAN  
IN ALL THE GALAXY,  
MUFF...!

**GOSH**, CYNTHIA!  
I WONDER WHEN  
THE NEXT SHIP  
LEAVES!

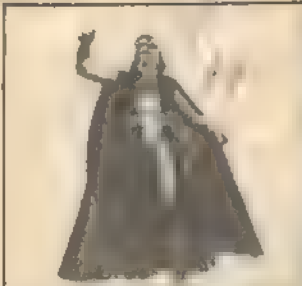
AND WHY  
WE'VE GOT TO  
**MAIL** HIM FOR  
THE **I.R.S.**!

END

## STAR WARS BEACH TOWELS



**TWO ROBOTS BEACH TOWEL** Rest easy at the beach with C-3PO and R2-D2 Robot figures printed in full color on 100% cotton velour background. Towel hemmed and measures 31"x60". #26052/\$8.00



**DARTH VADER BEACH TOWEL** This fabulous 100% cotton 31"x60" hemmed beach towel sports Darth Vader's image surrounded by attacking tie fighters and Star Wars logo. Full color. #26026/\$8.00

**NEW! NEW! NEW!**

# STAR WARS

## GOODIES!

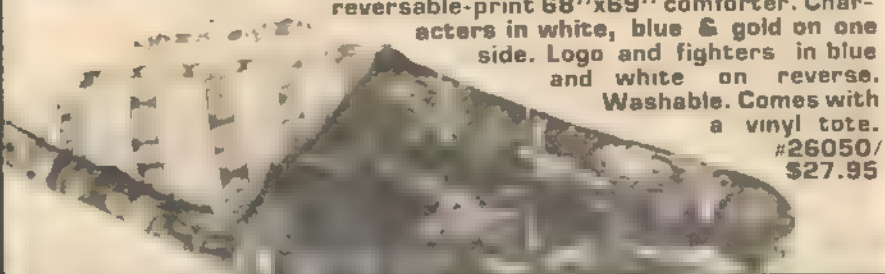
## STAR WARS TOOTH-BRUSH

Faces of Luke, Leia, Han Solo, R2-D2, C-3PO, Chewbacca, Darth Vader, Obi-Wan Kenobi decorate this automatic toothbrush! Recommended up & down brush action makes it a winner in the war against tooth decay. 2 C batteries power this mechanical marvel. 2 brightly colored replacement brushes put you ahead of the game. Watch the moving parts "move" in the transparent handle. A robot-toothbrush, a Star Warrior's dream. #26070/\$6.50

## STAR WARS

## SLEEPING BAG

Get into "Star Wars" with this synthetic-fiber filled sleeping bag. Unzips into a colorful, reversible-print 68"x69" comforter. Characters in white, blue & gold on one side. Logo and fighters in blue and white on reverse. Washable. Comes with a vinyl tote. #26050/\$27.95



## STAR WARS PILLOWCASES

Dream of galaxies long ago and far, far away on colorful blue, white and gold percale pillowcases featuring a dramatic scene with Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Han Solo, Artoo Detoo, See Threepio & Chewbacca! These pillowcases come 2 to a package and fit any standard-size normal pillows! #26049/\$3.50



A "force-ful" way to stay warm! new, colorful, 100% acrylic blanket, featuring "Star Wars" villains, 'droids, heroines and heroes! Vivid blues, golds & whites create a multi-hued blanket with beauty and durability. An asset to any "Star Wars" fan's room and/or collection! #26051/\$11.75

## STAR WARS BLANKET

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM



# STAR WARS FLYING MODEL ROCKETRY

## STAR WARS



**STAR WARS FLYING MODEL ROCKETRY KIT** Blast off in hot pursuit of Darth Vader in a half hour of receiving this incredible kit! Battery separate. Ages 12 and up. #2401/\$21.95

# STAR WARS MODELS

## DARTH VADER COSTUME & MASK

**DARTH VADER COSTUME & MASK** Wear the hood, cape and mask of the insidious Sith Lord. Made of long-lasting vinyl, one size can fit a child of any age. The last of the Jedi Knights. Buy #26048/\$4.95

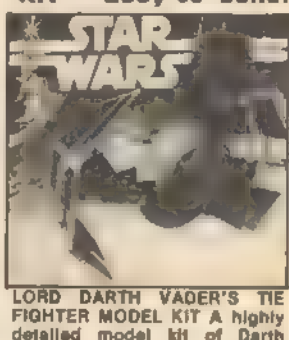


## R2-D2 MODEL KIT Easy-to-build.



**R2-D2 MODEL KIT** When he is constructed R2-D2 stands 6" high with a moveable head and legs. A must for fans! #24187/\$4.50

## DARTH VADER'S TIE FIGHTER MODEL KIT Easy-to-build.



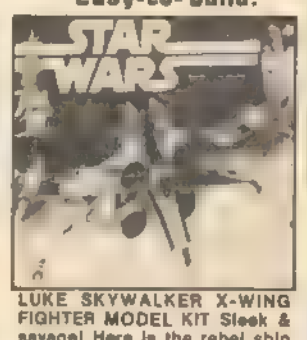
**LORD DARTH VADER'S TIE FIGHTER MODEL KIT** A highly detailed model kit of Darth Vader's own ship. When assembled the craft is 8 1/2" long with a 7 1/2" wing-span ready to defend the Death Star from Rebel Forces. #24200/\$5.50

## C-3PO MODEL KIT Easy-to-build.



**C-3PO MODEL KIT** The golden 'droid stands a full 10" tall when built. His body bends at the waist and his arms move. #24188/\$4.50

## X-WING FIGHTER MODEL KIT Easy-to-build.



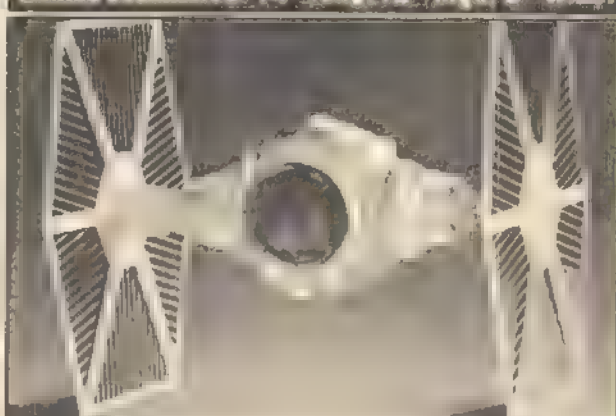
**LUKE SKYWALKER X-WING FIGHTER MODEL KIT** Sleek & savage! Here is the rebel ship which Luke piloted when he attacked Death Star. 12" from its nose to rear. 10" wingspan. The X-Wings move from hold to combat ready. #24199/\$5.50

## LUKE SKYWALKER'S EXCITING LANDSPEEDER VEHICLE Comes assembled. 9 1/2" long, 3" high.



**LUKE SKYWALKER'S EXCITING LANDSPEEDER VEHICLE** An authentic replica of Luke's desert roadster. The hood opens for access to the engine and a shift lever releases the spring loaded wheels which simulates floating ride. Passenger compartment can carry Action Figures. Fantastic! #24187/\$7.50

## TIE FIGHTER SPACE CRAFT Comes assembled. 18" long, 12" high, 3" wide.



**TIE FIGHTER SPACECRAFT** Used by Darth Vader. The cockpit opens to allow an Action Figure to be seated. Solar panels may be ejected simulating battle damage and for defense the fighter has a laser light and emits a whining laser sound you control! Imperial! #24186/\$15.95



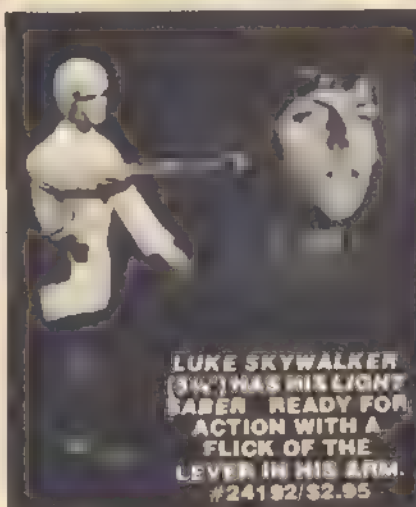
## X-WING FIGHTER 9" long x 9" wide. Already fully assembled.

**X-WING FIGHTER** Push down R2-D2's head, permanent navigator, and the wings open to combat position. The rear button engages the laser and sound. The cockpit canopy raises to open position so a Star Wars Action Figure might be seated in the fighter. A perfect spacecraft for destroying Death Star or for a battle with Darth Vader's deadly Tie Fighter. Amazing Buy! #24185/\$15.95

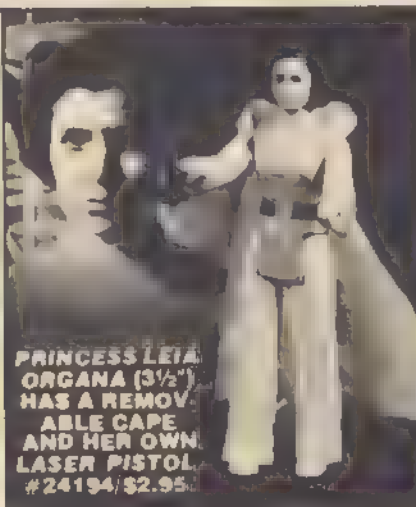
# STAR WARS

## Action Figures

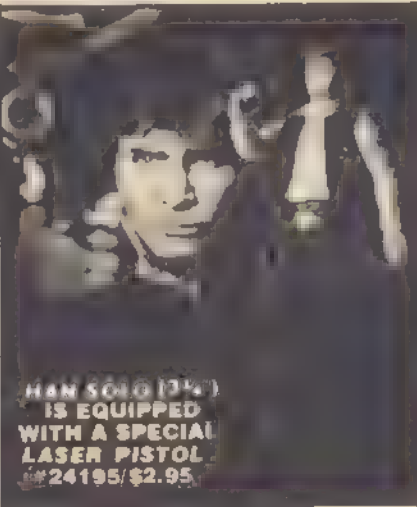
**ALREADY ASSEMBLED!**  
Nine exciting action figures, all in their authentic STAR WARS costumes. All have movable arms and legs designed for action poses. Set up a tabletop STAR WARS!



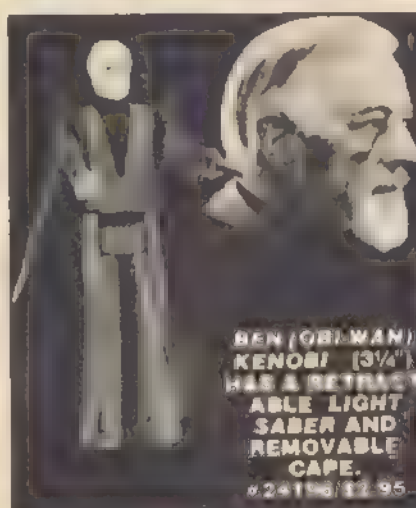
**LUKE SKYWALKER (3 1/4")** HAS HIS LIGHT SABER. READY FOR ACTION WITH A FLICK OF THE LEVER IN HIS ARM. #24192/\$2.95



**PRINCESS LEIA ORGANA (3 1/2")** HAS A REMOVABLE CAPE AND HER OWN LASER PISTOL. #24194/\$2.95



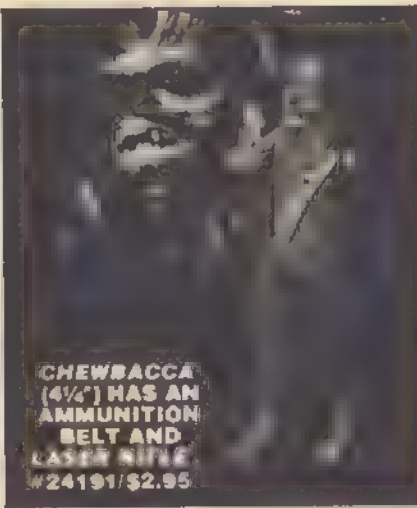
**HAN SOLO (3 1/4")** IS EQUIPPED WITH A SPECIAL LASER PISTOL. #24195/\$2.95



**BEN (OBI-WAN) KENOBI (3 1/4")** HAS A RETRACTABLE LIGHT SABER AND REMOVABLE CAPE. #24196/\$2.95



**DARTH VADER (4 1/4")** HAS A RETRACTABLE LIGHT SABER AND REMOVABLE CAPE. #24188/\$2.95



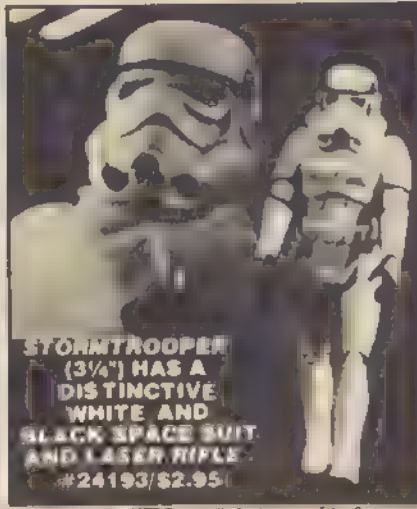
**CHEWBACCA (4 1/4")** HAS AN AMMUNITION BELT AND LASER RIFLE. #24191/\$2.95



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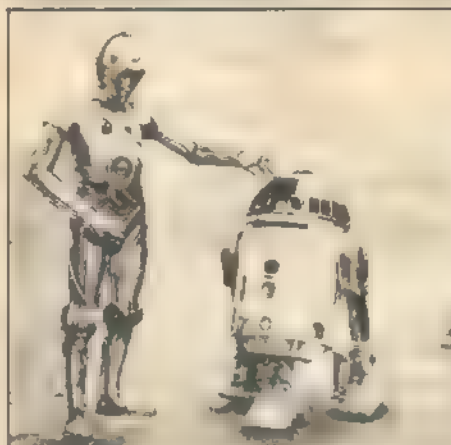


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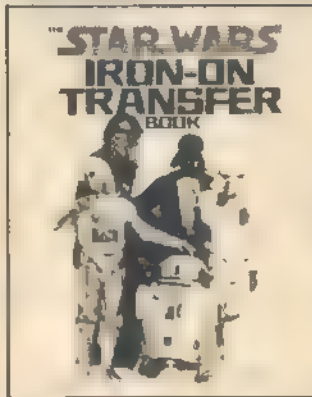
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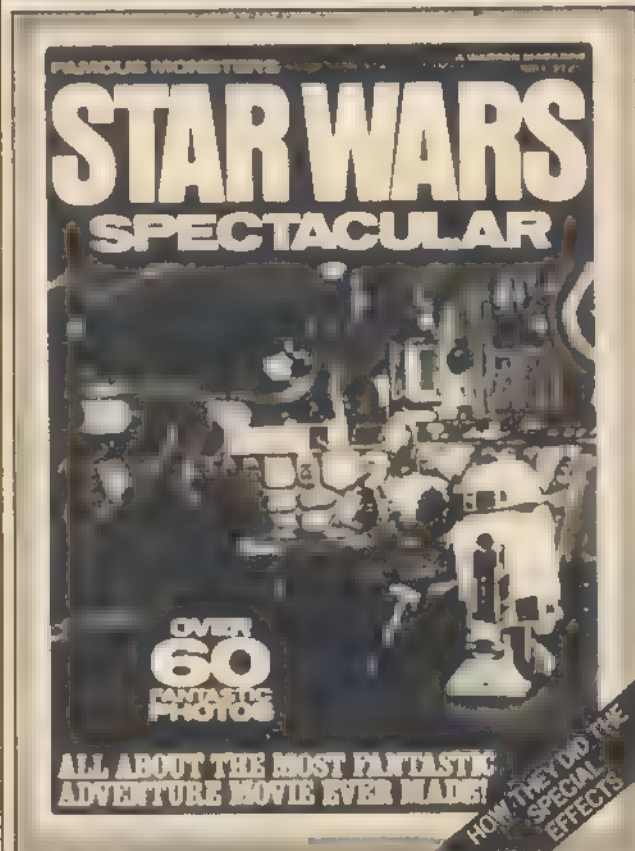
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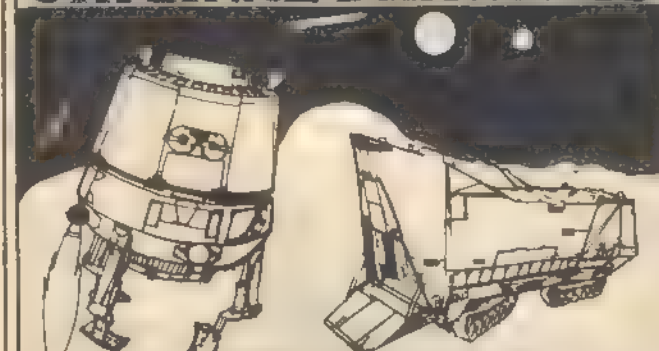


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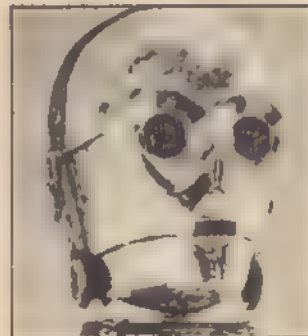
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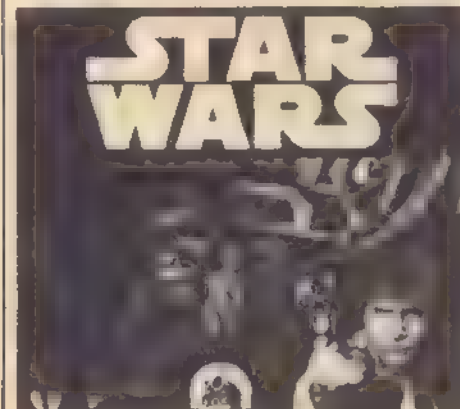


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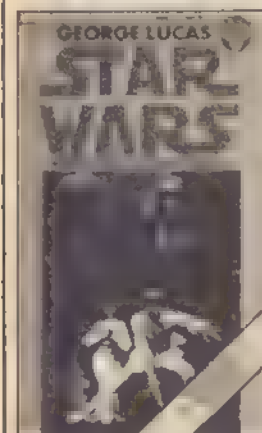
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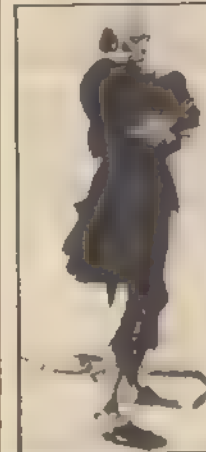
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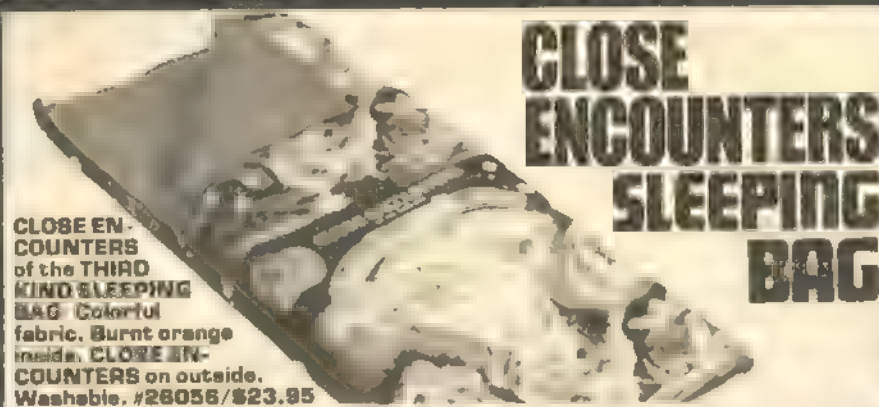
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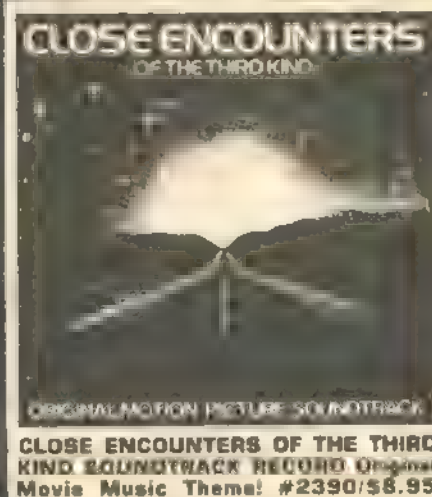
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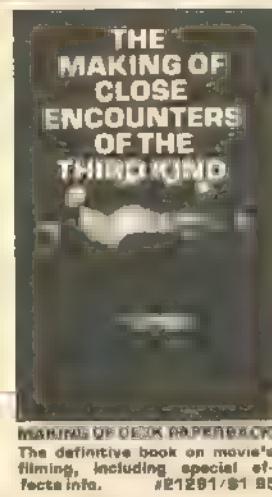
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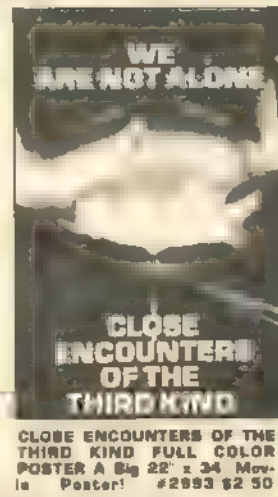
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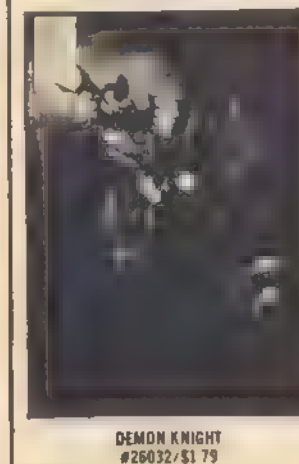
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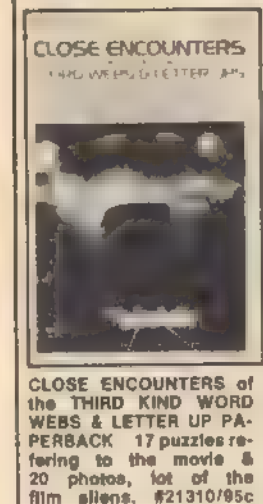
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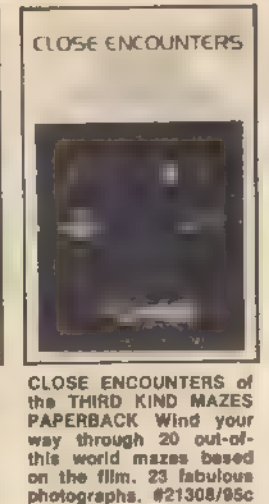
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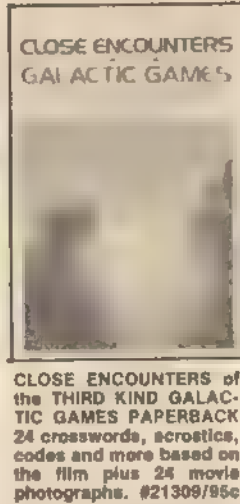
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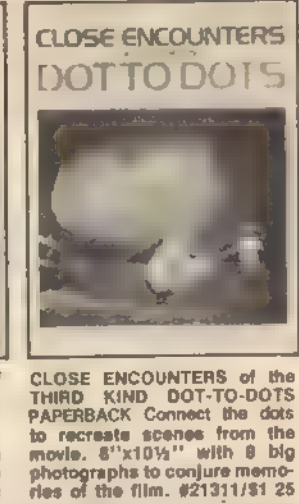
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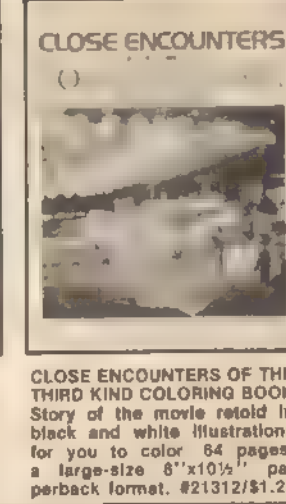
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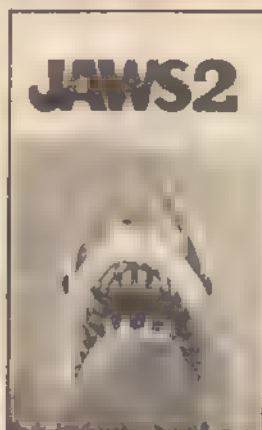


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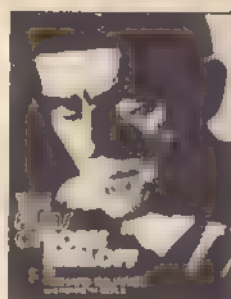
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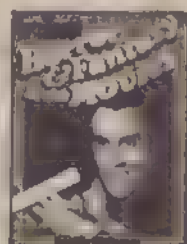
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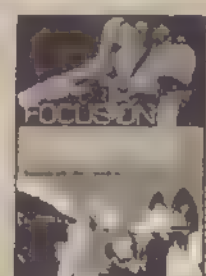
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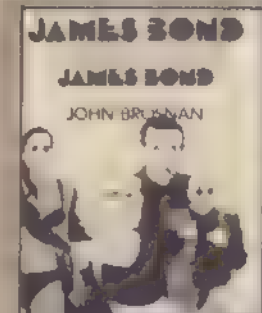
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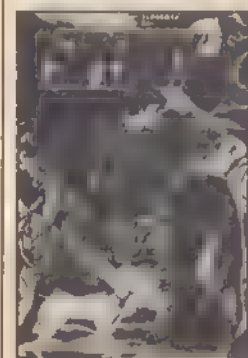
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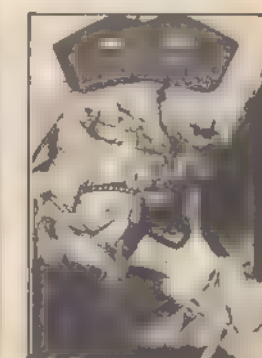
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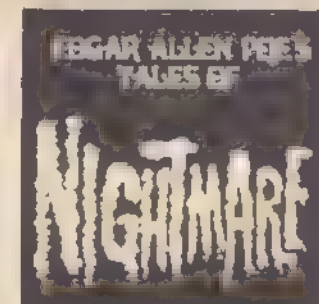


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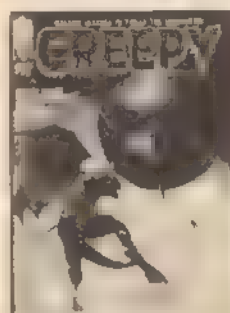
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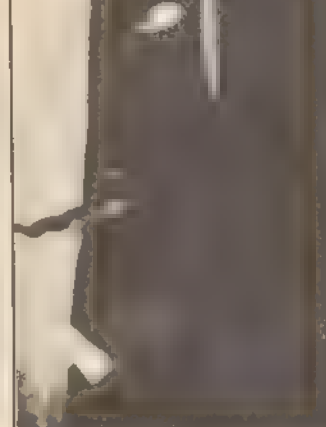
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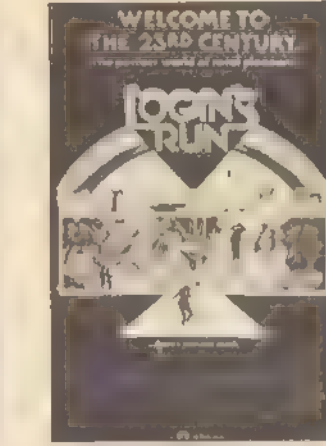
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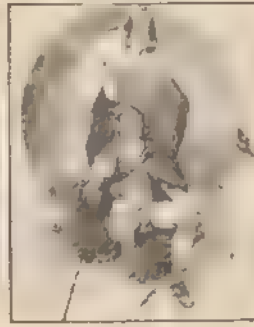
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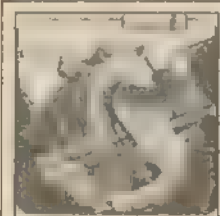
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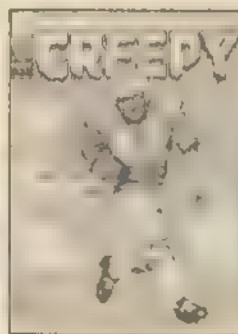
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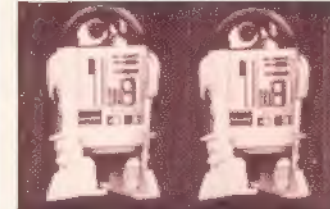
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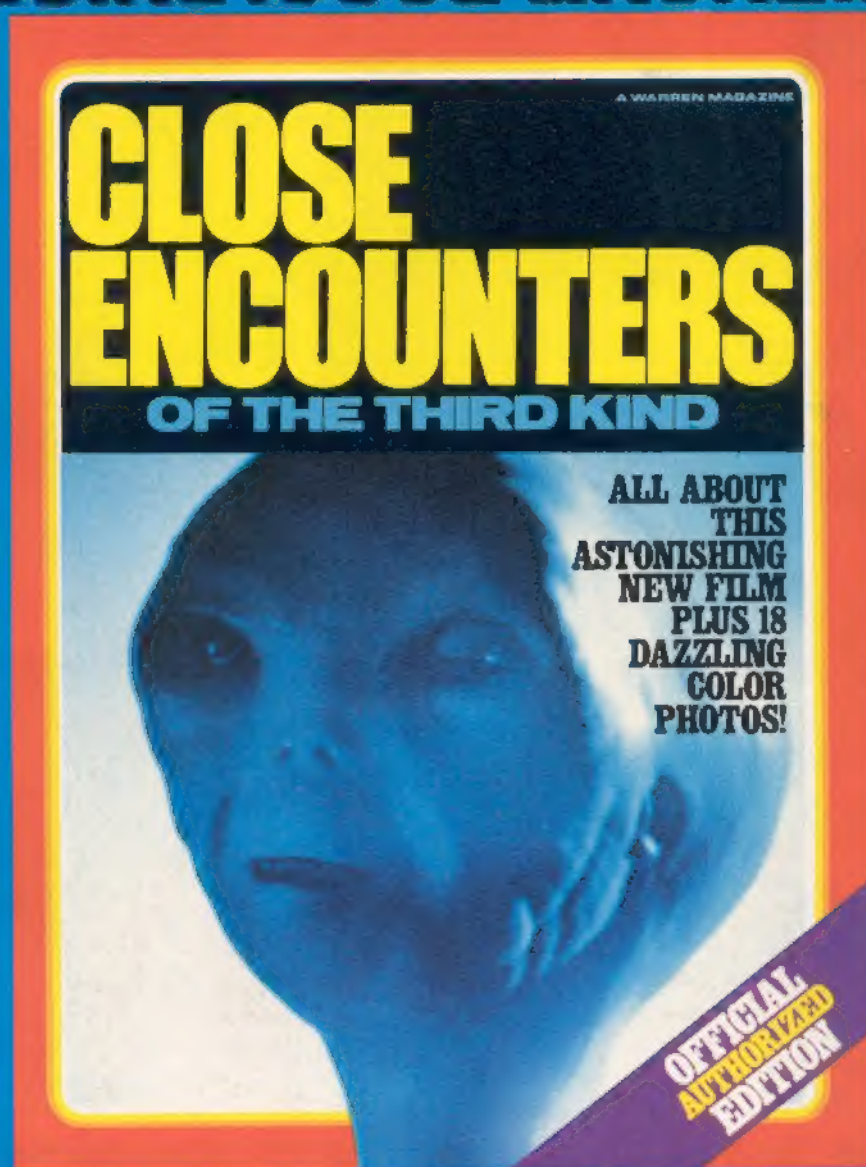
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